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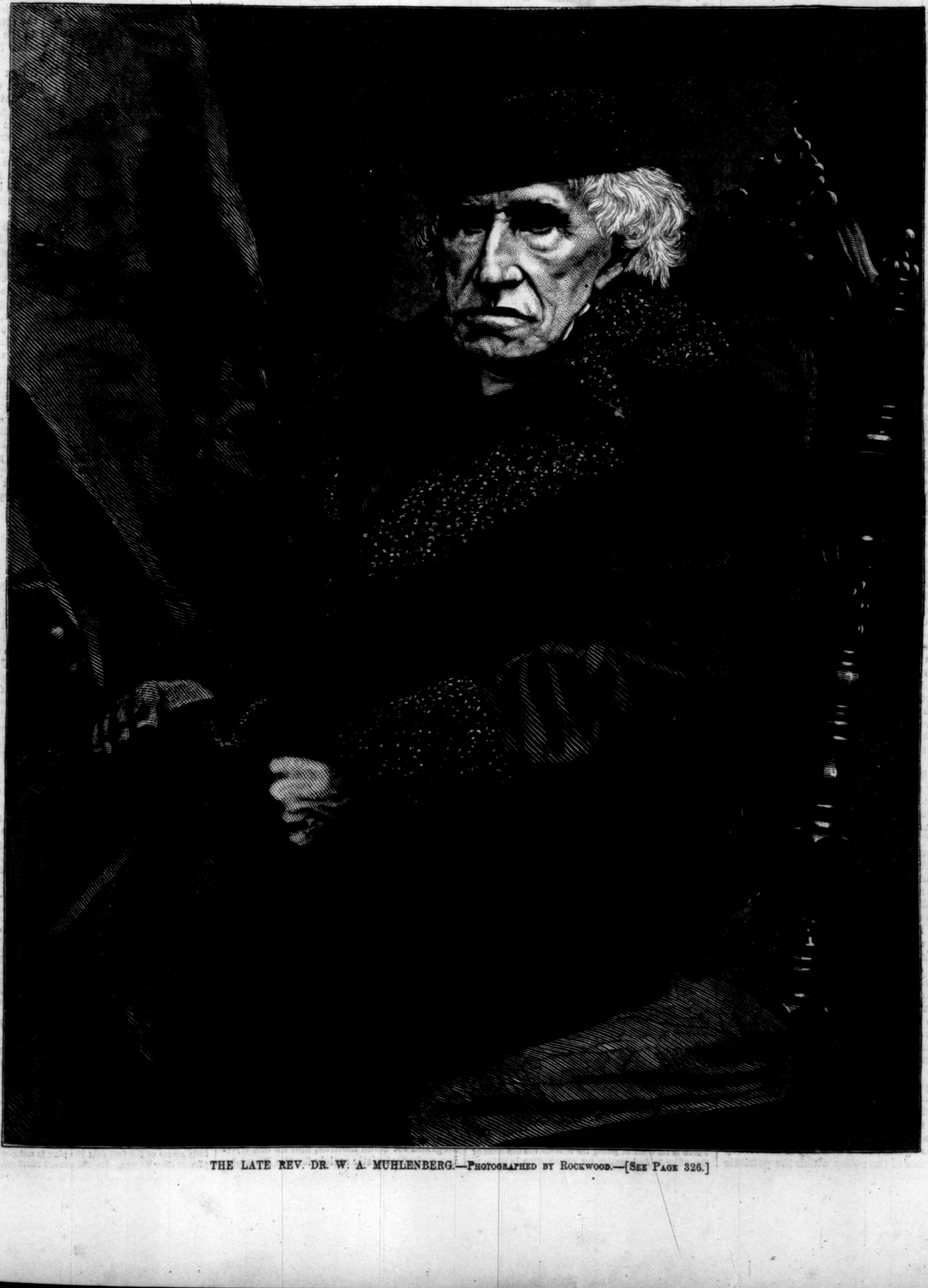

THE LATE REV. DR. W. A. MUHLENBERG.—PHOTOGRAPHED BY ROCKWOOD.—[SEE PAGE 326.]

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HARPER'S WEEKLY.

Saturday, April 28, 1877.

☞ *The* Illustrated Supplement *sent out gratuitously with this Number of* Harper's Weekly *contains an interesting double-page engraving of* Schliemann's

EXCAVATIONS AT MYCENÆ,

a portrait of the great explorer, and other attractive features.

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THE ADMINISTRATION.

The most amusing recent illustration of party spirit is the tone of the Democratic organs in speaking of the policy of the Administration. The Democratic Convention loudly, and with infinite reiteration, declared that the Southern policy should be reformed, that the civil service should be reformed, and that many other things should be reformed, that there might be a new spirit in public affairs. The Administration is reforming the Southern policy and the civil service, and is composed of hard-money men. But the Democratic press will not be comforted. It teems with personal sneers and innuendoes, and, unable to denounce what the Administration is doing, growls at the way in which it is doing it. The truth is that it was not reform in any particular which was so dear to the Democratic party as the possession of the power and the places. Had its real desire, for instance, been a change of the military policy in the Southern States, it would honorably have applauded and sustained an Administration which effected it. This is, indeed, the tone of Wade Hampton, and it is a significant sign of the inevitable changes that await the Democratic party. Mr. Hampton returned to South Carolina and frankly declared that he had left many prejudices behind him at Washington, and should support the Administration in the policy which it had indicated in its treatment of South Carolina.

When both parties demand non-interference in States, a reform of the civil service, and specie payments, and when there is no immediate issue upon which they profess to differ, party organizations will be very much relaxed, and politics will become largely personal until imperative questions are presented. This was the situation of 1824. The Missouri Compromise had laid the deep foundation of the irrepressible conflict in politics, but it was not developed, and Crawford, Clay, Jackson, and Adams ran a "scrub-race." Assuming the persistence of the Administration in its general policy, vehement party divisions upon present issues become impossible. We do not anticipate any sudden or complete change in party association and action. There will be no such change, indeed, until some question or measure is presented which seems to the present Democrat or Republican more important than mere adhesion to his old party name. Undoubtedly, in any re-adjustment of parties, whenever it may occur, the chance is very small that the tendency would be to strengthen the existing Democratic party. The traditions, the methods, and the composition of that party naturally inspire distrust. If the questions of immediate importance are the Southern situation, the finances, the civil service, and honest and economical government, the Democratic party has no reason for its existence as against the policy of the Administration, unless it stands for soft money, for patronage, for State interference, or for extravagance. Those who are opposed to all these things will naturally sustain an Administration which opposes them. The Administration of President Hayes is, therefore, in the truest sense national and patriotic.

That the feeling expressed in the opposition to the confirmation of the cabinet, and by Governor Chamberlain in his two letters, and by General Butler and Senator Blaine, will take some form of open or covert hostility to the Administration, is most probable. This probability will become certainty if the measures of reform applied to the civil service shall prove to be as radical as the principles that have been announced. But the best and only defense against such hostility is the steady adherence to the policy which the patriotic good sense of the country approves. The mainspring of the Hayes administration is patriotism, and not partisanship. Its spirit looks first, not to party advantage, but to the public welfare. This is something unknown since the administration of John Quincy Adams, except during that of Abraham Lincoln. And it is due to the conviction and character of the President. Fortunately, while his political principles are clear and fixed, he is not by nature a strong partisan. His Presidency, therefore, is most happily timed. Whatever may have been true as to the requirements of other epochs, it is manifest that what is now needed is not unbending partisanship, by whatever fine name it may be called. Those who hold that any thing else is weakness and folly, will, of course, not sustain the Administration. They may tolerate it, hoping only that the party, as they understand the party, may be able to survive it. Thus far, unquestionably, the Administration of President Hayes has the cordial sympathy and support of the most intelligent, humane, and patriotic sentiment of the country. And that is the surest and most lasting foundation.

TWO WAYS ONLY.

Why the certificate of a ward committee that a man has always been a faithful partisan and has worked zealously for the party should be better evidence of fitness for the customs or postal service than the results of an inquiry into that fitness, has never been ascertained. But in the midst of the vast and amusing ignorance and folly displayed upon the subject, it is refreshing to hear something from a man who actually knows what he is talking about. General Spear, the Commissioner of Patents, in a recent report to the Secretary of the Interior, speaks of the practical value of competitive examinations in the way that we shall quote. Examinations will be held in the Patent-office in accordance with common-sense—examinations, that is to say, in specific knowledge and fitness for specific duties. These are General Spear's words:

"In this connection I beg leave also to submit the result of my experience in the office as to the different methods of appointment and promotion. Practically there are only two. Either the selection for appointment or promotion must be made by competitive examination, conducted by a board in some measure independent of the nominating or appointing officer, or such appointments or promotions must be wholly effected or very largely modified by personal solicitation. Prior to the inauguration of competitive examinations, whenever a vacancy occurred, applicants for appointment or promotion sought to advance their interests by a system of solicitation, the nature of which I need not attempt to explain to you. The only reason why this did not prevail (I speak of this office) has been because it was for the personal interests and reputation of the head of the office to have the work done by competent persons, and the contest between personal solicitation and promotion by merit has varied under different administrations, according to the character and standing at the head of the bureau.

"When this system of competitive examination was put in force, in case of a vacancy in the office, all the lower grade might compete for appointment. The result was that, quitting the plan of waylaying the nominating or appointing officer and assailing him with the requests of influential friends, these officers and clerks applied themselves with the same zeal to fit themselves for the places for which they sought. The effect of this system upon the force of this office was very marked. Almost every man applied himself diligently to study. Assistant examiners made themselves familiar with the decisions of the court and of the commissioners, with all matters pertaining to their duties, and there was the most eager competition to excel in just that knowledge and efficiency which the business of the office required, so that if the same men had been selected under the new system as would have been selected under the old, the men themselves were rendered more efficient. But the selections were better. The examinations for promotions related directly, for the most part, and in all cases either directly or indirectly, to the business of the office, and whatever error was made was not due to the system of promotion and competitive examination, but to the imperfection of the agency by which it was carried out. My judgment is, after considerable experience, that no other system except that of competition can be maintained. It is impossible to fix an absolute standard, and if it could be done, no absolute standard could be maintained. Other examinations, so far as I know, have almost invariably tended to mere form.

"In this office the competitive examinations were confined mainly to those in and above the grade of first-class clerks. I see no reason, either in relation to the desirability of avoiding the inconvenience of personal requests for appointment, or in the nature of the work to be done, why all clerks and copyists, of every grade and class, should not be subjected to the same competitive examination, whether for appointment or promotion.

"So far from exempting lady clerks from the operations of the competitive system, there seems to be, in some respects, strong reasons for including them. The pressure for places for ladies, in consequence of their exclusion from many employments, is by far the greatest, and has been the heaviest burden I have had to bear. I believe the system I referred to a perfect remedy for the evil. It is needless to say that the acquirements and ability necessary for a copyist vary indefinitely in individual cases. The quality of handwriting, rapidity, accuracy, ability to decipher badly written manuscript, all these qualifications are to be taken into account. Further, a copyist needs a reasonably accurate knowledge of the language in order to properly divide words and the like; and in this office there should be also some familiarity with scientific and mechanical terms. There is ample scope for examination of copyists without going far outside the duties proposed.

"What I have said in relation to promotions in the examining corps is equally applicable to appointments. There is no need of going far outside the business of the office to find matter for examination in order to test the fitness of applicants for appointments. I have found, by an experience of nearly three years, that an examination in matters pertaining to official business, or pertaining to matters intimately connected therewith, is all that is required, not only to test the knowledge of an applicant, but the quality of his mind and his mental habits."

In the current number of *Fraser's Magazine*, also, there is an excellent article upon the competitive system. It disposes of the usual objections, and of the disadvantages—such as cramming, etc.—which the system is said to have developed. The writer understands the subject thoroughly, and asserts, what every one who has seriously considered the question knows, that there are but two methods of making first appointments—one by examination, and the other by patronage. There may be an effort to combine the two, but there is no third method. And appointment by patronage has and can have but one result, that of making the service the reward of partisanship. In the interests of national morality and of the efficiency of the service, it would be a great deal better, as the writer says, to fill the offices by chance than by patronage.

It must never be forgotten that the standing reply to the standing objection that administrative skill, sound judgment, tact, and discretion, which are the important higher official qualifications, can never be ascertained by examination, is that they can not be ascertained in any other way. The word of a member of Congress who wants a man appointed certainly does not prove those qualifications. The petition of unknown hundreds of citizens, who sign every petition, does not establish them. The urgent letters of interested vouchers do not prove any thing. On the other hand, it is true that an examination in Greek and botany does not show practical sagacity in affairs. All that is undeniable. It is solely the examination by experience which settles the point. That, and that alone, is the test. And that is the probation which every subordinate in private business undergoes, and which is provided in every intelligent system of the public service.

There is another familiar remark, that subordinates in an office are generally not fit to be chiefs of the office, and consequently that promotions are unwise. It would be a poor plan, we are told, to advance a *book*-keeper in a bank to be the president. The reply to this is that it does not follow, because the south wind is warm, that the north wind may not be cool. It does not follow, because it would be foolish, for many reasons, to insist upon promoting a messenger in the Treasury to be Secretary of the Department, that therefore it would be foolish to advance a clerk in a Treasury bureau to be the head of the bureau. In most of the bureaus any man who is fitted for a clerkship is fitted to be the head. The head is merely the head of the class; and before it is said that a capable deputy in a bureau or division or minor department is not a suitable person for the headship, it must be shown how patronage is likely to secure a better head. As Mr. Evarts well said in his speech at the meeting for municipal reform, instead of objecting to the plan proposed, let a better plan be suggested. Instead of objecting to examination for first appointments and promotion within the service, let a better plan be suggested.

CANADIAN ANNEXATION.

Mr. Sumner was of opinion that the great defect of the Treaty of Washington was that it did not provide for the withdrawal of Great Britain from this continent. He was quite sure that at the very bottom of the "High Joint" pocket lay that concession, and that if the United States only pushed strenuously enough, they would surely bring it to light. This opinion, which became very positive, was undoubtedly partly due to Mr. Sumner's strong conviction that the wise and natural extension of this country is toward Canada, and not toward the Spanish possessions. The lawless and unnatural extension propaganda of the country, from Aaron Burr to Soulé, has always been toward the tropics, toward imperialism, and slavery. But its natural development is toward the north and Canada, toward the stock and language and religious faith of the dominant race of the United States. It is remarkable, however, how little general interest or knowledge in regard to Canada there is in this country. To the great mass of American citizens it is a very obscure land. Its politics, its history, its statistics, its movement of every kind, are singularly unknown to us.

It is long since Canada has had so interested and observant a critic as Goldwin Smith. He was a student of "the Empire" long before he left England, and his views of colonial dependence were not only set forth in his volume upon "the Empire," but in his Oxford lectures. He has now been in England for some months, and he has written a characteristic article for the *Fortnightly Review* upon "The Political Destiny" of Canada. It has all his force and warmth and point, and declares frankly for Canadian annexation to the United States. His argument is very strong, and it is the argument of a resident and observer who has great shrewdness of political apprehension and entire intrepidity of expression. He finds no national feeling in Canada, and a party government without rational or moral basis for parties. There is a feeble imitation of England, but an imitation that would endure no serious strain whatever, and there is great political corruption. The chief forces which in his judgment tend to separate the New from the Old World in their relation to Canada are the distance, absolute divergence of interest, divergence of political character, and the gradually irresistible attraction of the great neighbor, the United States. The forces that sustain the present relation are the reactionary spirit of the French Canadian priesthood; "United Empire loyalism," an English exotic; the British immigrant influence, with that of the troops and of the Anglican Church; Orangeism; the social influence of the British aristocracy; antipathy to Americans, sprung from many causes; and the attachment of the body of politicians to the system with reference to which parties have been formed.

These, however, seem to Mr. Smith secondary and transient forces compared with those that tend to unite the two countries. In case of trouble, England would hardly care to suffer for Canada, and Canada certainly has no special interest in the foreign relations of England. Indeed, the same causes that, *mutatis mutandis*, led to the separation of the old thirteen colonies from England, will promote that of British Canada. The way to annexation, as Mr. Smith plainly sees, is through independence. But Mr. Sumner's hopes of a treaty with England for annexation would certainly have been disappointed. Nor has Mr. Smith any doubt that the Union would welcome Canada if she came of her own accord. And he thinks we should be very unwise if we did *not* welcome her. For she would bring not only complete immunity from attack, and great economical advantages, but the immense political advantage of a population capable of adding fresh strength and vitality to our republican institutions, which he thinks still need such assistance. To Canada the economical advantage would be great, and there would be no menace to England, which is really not strengthened, but rather weakened, by Canadian dependence. But it is of great importance that England should not fall into her old error, and force a rupture instead of fostering an amicable separation. "The ultimate union of Canada with the United States," he concludes, "appears now to be morally certain."

HOW TO ELECT THE PRESIDENT.

We have been asked by readers who are interested in what we have said of the Nicholas plan for the election of President, to state it more distinctly and in detail, that it may be more intelligently considered and compared with other schemes. This we willingly do. The subject had been so thoroughly and carefully considered by Judge Nicholas that it justly deserves thoughtful attention, and may prove to be full of valuable suggestion. We have, of course, no other interest in the plan than a desire to give every well-considered proposition of this kind a fair chance for public criticism. By common consent the present system of Presidential election is too perilous to endure. A change must be made. Mr. Morton has suggested his plan; Mr. Buckalew has suggested his. It is no discourtesy to those gentlemen to say that Judge Nicholas had not less carefully studied the subject than they. And as some knowledge of the author will be interesting, we subjoin a letter written in reply to a request for personal information:

"If my recollection serves me, he died in 1867. His history is not a public one. He was a Virginian by birth, but was brought to Kentucky when a boy, and with the exception of the years that he spent in being educated in other States and abroad, I think he always lived here. He was a clear-headed, firm, modest, and retiring man, and was, very naturally, supposed to be a cold one. He never held political office, never ran for office, and never had any great popular reputation even in his own State. He was some years Chancellor of the Louisville Chancery Court, and afterward justice of the Court of Appeals—the court of last resort in Kentucky. He held the latter position but a short time, resigning to become Chancellor again. As a judge, there has, perhaps, never been a man in the State more respected by the truly educated and intelligent part of the bar, and that not merely because of his faultless character and conduct as a judge, but because he was recognized by such to be one of the ablest and most scholarly of the lawyers of the State.

"Being wealthy, he resigned his position on the bench some years before his death, and devoted himself to retirement and study, and it was then that he ended (but, as he himself said, 'never completed') his plan for electing the President. No one can be more fully aware of the fact that the plan is not absolutely perfect than he was. He understood thoroughly that

amendments of the laws are too apt to be offered and adopted to prevent a present patent danger, at the risk of exposure to many others far more serious.

"Politically, Judge NICHOLAS was, in its *better sense*, a 'trimmer.' He was too consistent to belong to a party. He attacked all sides with the vigor of conviction. Raised in the South, and indoctrinated by able preceptors in Southern principles, he was a bitter opponent of all that was bad and much that was good in Northern politics. Yet, being an honest and a fearless man, he maintained many Northern principles with an unflinching courage that barely challenged admiration enough to save him from social ostracism. He was an ardent lover and a firm defender of the Union. The country does not know it, but the country is his insolvent debtor. No man did more to save it in 1861. I think I have very sufficient reasons to believe that had it not been for his efforts, Kentucky would have left the Union. You are, no doubt, too familiar with the history of those times to need to be told what the consequences would have been. Mr. LINCOLN saw them clearly.

"Some of the articles in his books, other than those relating to the Presidency, will doubtless displease you by the rough treatment of principles, and perhaps men, you have always regarded unassailable. In many instances you can not differ with him more than I do. But we should remember two things—the political theories of liberal men in 1861 should not be measured by the standard of to-day, nor should the opinions of a Southern man have their liberality measured by the extent of their difference with opinions held at the same time by Northern men."

The principle of the amendment suggested by Judge NICHOLAS is simple. The details are necessarily more extended. We give it in his own words. The ninth clause is obviously superfluous, except as an indication of the spirit of the whole.

"*Be it resolved....that the Constitution....be amended as follows:*

"SECTION 1. Congress shall, at the first session after the adoption of this amendment, and from time to time thereafter, apportion among the several States the electors of President and Vice-President, according to the ratio of population, in Federal numbers: one elector to each State having less than a million; two to each having one, but less than two million; three to each having less than three million; four to each having three, but less than four million; five to each having four, but less than six million; six to each having six, but less than eight million; and seven to each having eight million of population. Each State having but one elector shall be an electoral district, and each of the other States shall be divided by Congress into districts equal to the number of its electors, to be composed of conterminous territory, and, as near as may be, the districts to have equality of population.

"SEC. 2. The voters of each district qualified to vote for members of the most numerous branch of the Legislature shall elect an elector. The elections for electors shall be held during the month of October next preceding the commencement of every Presidential term. The several State Legislatures shall prescribe the time and manner of holding those elections and making returns thereof; also, for deciding them when contested, and making new elections therein; but Congress may discharge this duty in whole or in part when deemed necessary.

"SEC. 3. The electors shall convene in the Senate-chamber, at the seat of government, at noon of the first Monday in February next preceding the commencement of the ensuing Presidential term, and form an Electoral College. Two-thirds of all the electors shall be a quorum of the College. The Chief Justice of the United States, or, in his absence, the President of the Senate, or, in the absence of both, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall be the presiding officer of the College. The presiding officer shall cause all the electors elected, whether present or not, to be listed in the alphabetical order of their names, and in that order divide them into six classes of equal numbers, distributing by lot separately among the several classes such electors at the bottom of the list, if any, as are left out in the division. He shall by lot, under the supervision of one from each class, designate the several classes by numbers from one to six. When a quorum is present, he shall announce that the College is formed, and note the time at which the enunciation is made; but, when necessary, the enunciation shall be postponed until after the verification, by a majority of the electors present, of the returns and qualification of members.

"SEC. 4. After the College is formed, the electors present of each class shall choose an elector from the class next succeeding it in number, except class six, which shall choose from class one. In open session of the College, the presiding officer, under the supervision and control of the six so chosen, or a majority of them, shall cause two of those six to be designated by lot. From those two the College shall choose one, who shall be President for the next ensuing term of four years, and the other shall be the Vice-President for that term. The voting, by class or College, shall be *viva voce*, in open session of the College. In cases of tie, the casting vote shall be given by the presiding officer, who, if he be also an elector, shall not vote except in cases of tie. The College may adopt rules for expediting a decision by the several classes, and to prevent more than two persons from receiving an equality of votes on the final vote of a class. If there be a failure to choose one of the six from any class within the time prescribed by the College, the members of that class shall themselves make the choice. There shall be no reconsideration of a vote given.

"SEC. 5. If the College fail, except from exterior violence or intimidation, to make an election of President or Vice-President within twenty-four hours from the time when the College was formed, it shall be dissolved, and the offices of its electors vacated. Thereupon the presiding officer shall order a new election of electors on any day not less than thirty from the date of his proclamation, and at least thirty days before the next month of June, which election shall be held, and the electors chosen shall convene at the time and place designated by the proclamation, and proceed to the election of a President and Vice-President, as before directed, within twenty-four hours from the time of their formation into a College, and under like penalty for their failure. Should the failure to elect be caused by exterior violence or intimidation, the functions of the College shall not cease, but it shall reconvene when and where a majority of its members shall by proclamation direct, and make or complete an election as before directed, within the time specified, under like penalty.

"SEC. 6. Should no election for President and Vice-President be made by an Electoral College before the first day of June next ensuing the commencement of a Presidential term, the Senate of the United States shall convene in its chamber at noon of the first Monday in July next thereafter, constitute all its elected members, whether present or not, into an Electoral College, as though each Senator had been elected an elector, and proceed in all respects as before directed, within twenty-four hours, to choose a President and Vice-President to fill the vacancy. Should the Senate fail to elect, the discharge of the duties of President and Vice-President, for the residue of that term, shall devolve upon such officers of the government as Congress shall have theretofore directed.

"SEC. 7. No office shall be incompatible with that of an elector except the office of Chief Justice of the United States.

"SEC. 8. An act or resolution passed by Congress, which shall be returned by the President with his objections, shall be valid without his signature if repassed by each House of Congress by a vote equal to a majority of all the members elected thereto.

"SEC. 9. It shall not be deemed compatible with the duty of the President habitually to use the patronage of his office for the special advantage of any particular political party, or to suffer the patronage of any subordinate officer to be so used.

"SEC. 10. Should a vacancy occur in both the office of President and that of Vice-President while there are two years remaining of the then Presidential term, the Chief Justice of the United States, or, in his absence, the Secretary of State, shall convene the Electoral College after thirty days' notice, by proclamation, who shall fill the vacancies for the remainder of the term in all respects as if it were an original election.

"SEC. 11. Every elector, before entering on the duties of his office, shall, by oath or affirmation, promise to support the Constitution of the United States, and declare that he has not pledged and will not pledge his vote as an elector in favor of any person or toward aiding any political party."

MUNICIPAL POLITICS.

THE propositions of the New York Municipal Commission have been considered in the Legislature. The chief objection was made by the Democrats in the Senate to the provision which contemplates a Board of Finance in every city of the State, consisting of not less than six nor more than fifteen members. In cities of more than a hundred thousand population, this board is to be elected by those qualified electors who for the two years next preceding the election shall have paid an annual tax on property owned by them, and officially assessed for taxation in such city, of the assessed value of not less than five hundred dollars, or who shall have actually paid, during the same period, a yearly rent for premises occupied by them for purposes of residence or lawful business of not less than two hundred and fifty dollars. In cities of less than a hundred thousand inhabitants the qualifying tax or rent paid is smaller. This board is to make the estimates for the necessary expenses of proper municipal administration, submitting them to the Mayor, and hearing his objections, if any; but it shall have the final decision as to the amount to be raised by taxation. It has also other specified powers, but this is the chief.

The Democratic Senators began at once to discuss the merits of the proposition, and denounced it as class legislation, and "infamous." The question, however, was not of the merits, for that is a question not for a few Senators, but for the people of the State, to consider. The precise situation is that Governor TILDEN called attention to the appalling and increasing evils of city government as now existing, and in a message, in which the principle of this provision was certainly plainly indicated, proposed a Commission of Inquiry. The Commission was authorized, and was composed of men of both parties especially fitted to consider the subject; and after careful deliberation they made an exhaustive report, with a series of exceedingly reasonable propositions, of which we have heretofore spoken. These propositions are in the form of an addition to the Constitution, and as they are the suggestion of a very able Commission, appointed with the approval of both parties, and designed to remedy acknowledged and dangerous evils, there should seem to be no good reason why either party should resist their submission to the people. Democratic Senators, however, probably thought it necessary to challenge them, lest they should be suspected of any favor toward a proposition which might be denounced as a partial disfranchisement of a part of the voters. The same gentlemen would probably be unwilling to appear to oppose the submission of a proposition that foreign emigrants to the country should vote at the end of a fortnight, lest it should be said that they were hostile to oppressed nationalities.

There is, we hope and believe, little doubt that the propositions will be approved by this Legislature for submission to the people. To suppose that of course they will be rejected for any such reasons as were urged in the debate, is to insult the intelligence of the voters of the State, and to discredit popular government. The principle of such government is not that the people are to vote always and for every thing. It is that the people, confiding to general suffrage the powers of the primary and controlling elections for the whole community, will also understand when and under what conditions, and for the same purpose of good government, appointment shall be substituted for election, and when the suffrage for special local purposes shall be limited. This is the popular principle, and to suppose that a community is not intelligent enough to know when its own advantage will be promoted by limiting or dividing its power, while it reserves the supreme authority, is to suppose that it is not wise enough to govern itself. The practical proposition for the people to consider will be whether, upon a calm review of the frightful financial condition of the cities, and of the causes which have unquestionably produced that condition, it is not likely to be very much ameliorated by intrusting the disposition of the taxes collected for the local purposes of the city to the great multitude of those who actually contribute the money. As a practical question in the city of New York, is it in any sense unjust that those who pay no taxes and no rent toward the necessary expenses of lighting and cleaning the streets and opening highways, should stand aside and allow those who do contribute the money, and who have more interest in promoting those purposes so far as they are necessary and proper, to decide how much money shall be raised and how it shall be appropriated?

This is the substantial question of this provision. Its consideration and the decision upon it will be an admirable test of the popular character and intelligence. Ignorance and prejudice will be relied upon to defeat it. But there is no class in the community more interested in its adoption than that of the small rent-payers. Great capitalists can endure enormous taxation and municipal extravagance. But those who live upon wages and moderate means are pecuniarily interested in restricting the recklessness and squandering which is to-day one of the chief causes that make living in the city so difficult to the poor man.

THE FIFTY-FOURTH.

THE fifty-fourth volume of *Harper's Monthly* ends with the May number, just published, and no one who sees it will doubt that it retains all the bloom and freshness of its youth, with a richness of maturity that commends it still more cordially to its great audience. The present number is a beautifully illustrated book, of the most various character and interest. The illustrations, which are unusually copious, are also of unusual excellence. A striking illustrated poem, "Israfil," will command attention, while the second delightful paper upon "Our Familiar Birds," and the illustrated sketches of foreign and domestic travel, are full of humor and interest. "An Old Gentleman's Recollections" is an entertaining sketch of earlier American society, from the diaries of Mr. SAMUEL BRECK, who died in Philadelphia in 1862, a little more than ninety-one years old. There are excellent stories and delicate verses, and a lively paper upon "Equestrianopathy," which shall explain itself. Indeed, those who "take a fresh start" with *Harper's Monthly* as it sets forth upon its fifty-fifth volume, will not regret their choice of a monthly companion.

PERSONAL.

A CLERICAL friend who called at St. Luke's Hospital to inquire as to the condition of Dr. MUHLENBERG, a few days before his death, tells us this characteristic anecdote of the saintly doctor. At morning prayers in the chapel (which is so arranged that most of those lying in the sick-wards can hear the service), the doctor, listening attentively and devoutly, heard the officiating clergyman offer the usual prayer for the sick, and afterward for the doctor's recovery. After service the doctor remarked to the friend who was sitting at his bedside: "We *must* come to some understanding about this. I do not want to have prayer offered for my recovery, but rather that I may be speedily called away to my rest. We *must* have an understanding about this matter." It may well be doubted if any man was ever more perfectly prepared for the transition than Dr. MUHLENBERG.

—Among the cadets to the Military Academy at West Point, appointed by President HAYES a few days since, is WARREN PUTNAM NEWCOMB, of Massachusetts, the only male descendant of Generals JOSEPH WARREN and ISRAEL PUTNAM, of Revolutionary fame. Speaking of the Military Academy, we understand that the only colored cadet now at West Point will not only graduate at the coming June Commencement, but that his character, acquirements, and standing on the merit roll are such as will insure his graduation among the highest of his class. In this connection it may be mentioned that the writer, while in New Orleans a few weeks since, visited both the "PACKARD" and "NICHOLLS" Legislatures, and was surprised to find acting as Secretary of the Senate of the latter a full-blooded negro, who was represented by the Senators as being one of the most useful, well-informed, and thoroughly competent officers that had ever officiated in that capacity in Louisiana. He enjoyed the entire confidence and respect of every member of the Senate.

—Mrs. BETSY WHITEHOUSE, who was said to be the wealthiest woman in New Hampshire, bequeathed a large portion of her estate to charitable institutions, the principal one being the Home Missionary Society of New Hampshire. The object of this society is to aid feeble Congregational churches. The bequest, it is said, will amount to $200,000.

—A gentleman who has been peering into the domestic ways of some of our writers, says that "BAYARD TAYLOR, after all his travels, has settled down here to deliberate domesticity, and thinks it the best thing in life. After running the sentimental gauntlet of his fair compatriots, he married a Saxon, a very agreeable and intelligent lady, and they have one child, a girl now nearly grown to womanhood. EDMUND C. STEDMAN, the Wall Street bard, is every inch a family man, and is never happier than under his own roof, with his wife and two boys nearly grown, and both of them taller than their father, recounting the experience of his youth as if he were a veteran, although he is but little over forty. RICHARD HENRY STODDARD cleaves to the domestic altar, notwithstanding the fact that he, a poet, married a poet, ELIZABETH BARSTOW, many years ago, and finds that the Muse never refuses the invitation of hearts because they are closely wedded by love and sympathy, and that she is not scared by children—they have one son—as many satirists would make us believe."

—Mrs. MARY TABER, recently deceased in Brooklyn, bequeathed to the Board of Church Extension of the M. E. Church in Pennsylvania, $8000; to the Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, to educate students for the ministry, $6000; and to various other religious and charitable societies in Brooklyn, $10,000.

—Englishmen seem to concede the fact that the career of Lord BEACONSFIELD in the House of Lords has thus far been a complete success, his ascendency being as incontestable as it was in the Commons. In an age which admires nothing so much as success, the incomparable success of Mr. DISRAELI is unique. The sustained brilliancy of his career has dazzled the eyes of an entire nation. The qualities which he has displayed are those that the present generation most admire; the combination of them that Lord BEACONSFIELD realizes has never been witnessed before in one man. Genius, courage, a clearness of vision almost prophetic, a supreme contempt for every thing in the nature of a political principle, an unfailing luck—which is, perhaps, but a weak synonym for the natural outcome of these other qualities—are gifts which no single statesman ever possessed collectively in such abundance as Lord BEACONSFIELD. It is not an exaggeration to say that to the vulgar mind he seems endued with a sort of supernatural power. He has succeeded so frequently in foretelling the future from the past—utterances which at the time appeared preposterous in their unwisdom and grotesque in their wildness have so often been justified by facts—that there is really a disposition to credit him with some of the attributes of the political seer. When attention is drawn to the circumstance that in his early writings may be discovered a prescient sense of the events of his later years, this disposition becomes a mysterious conviction, causing a genuine awe to mingle with the popular sentiment of admiration. When apparent political blunders are vindicated, and proved to be triumphant illustrations of political foresight, their author has a claim to the homage of his fellow-men which may safely defy disparagement.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

THE Southern Hotel, one of the largest and finest in St. Louis, was burned on the morning of the 11th. The fire broke out shortly before two o'clock, and spread with such rapidity that in less than an hour the entire building was in ruins. The guests rushed from their beds frantically, but many were driven back to their rooms by the dense smoke which filled the hallways. Some were rescued by means of ropes and ladders, but others, becoming desperate, leaped from the upper windows, and were instantly killed, or so badly mangled that death resulted soon after. One man who escaped lost his reason, and another, becoming demented, blew out his brains at the house of a friend. The number of killed is estimated at forty or fifty. Among those saved was Miss Kate Claxton, the actress, who narrowly escaped death at the Brooklyn Theatre fire. The money losses will probably reach $750,000.

The business centre of the town of Pomeroy, Ohio, was destroyed by fire on the night of the 11th. The total loss was about $100,000.

Senator Morrissey's bill relating to the government of the city of New York passed the State Senate on the 13th.

The United States troops were withdrawn from the State-house at Columbia, South Carolina, on the 10th. There was no excitement in the city. On the 11th, Governor Hampton took formal possession.

President Hayes has authorized the expenditure of $904,000, under the direction of the Chief of Engineers, for the improvement of rivers and harbors. This will still leave a balance of $1,600,000 to the credit of various improvements.

A dispatch from General Sheridan states that Spotted Tail and 1500 hostile warriors are on their way to surrender to our troops. Sitting Bull has gone to British Columbia.

On the 10th, the Secretary of War wrote to General Sherman directing the withdrawal of the United States troops from the Territory of Alaska.

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE news from the East is exceedingly warlike. A Constantinople dispatch says the Montenegrin delegates had a final interview, on the 13th, with Safvet Pasha, who declared that the Porte rejected their demands. Subsequently the Grand Vizier telegraphed Prince Nicholas that the armistice had ended, and would not be prolonged.

A St. Petersburg dispatch, of the 13th, states that a grand council of war was then being held there. The cabinet regarded the Turkish circular as a complete rejection of the protocol, and therefore declined the Porte's proposal to send a special plenipotentiary to St. Petersburg, as further negotiation was useless. Montenegro will defer the resumption of hostilities until Russia's final decision. The Minister of War has ordered the calling out in the entire military district of St. Petersburg of all soldiers on furlough before the 22d inst.

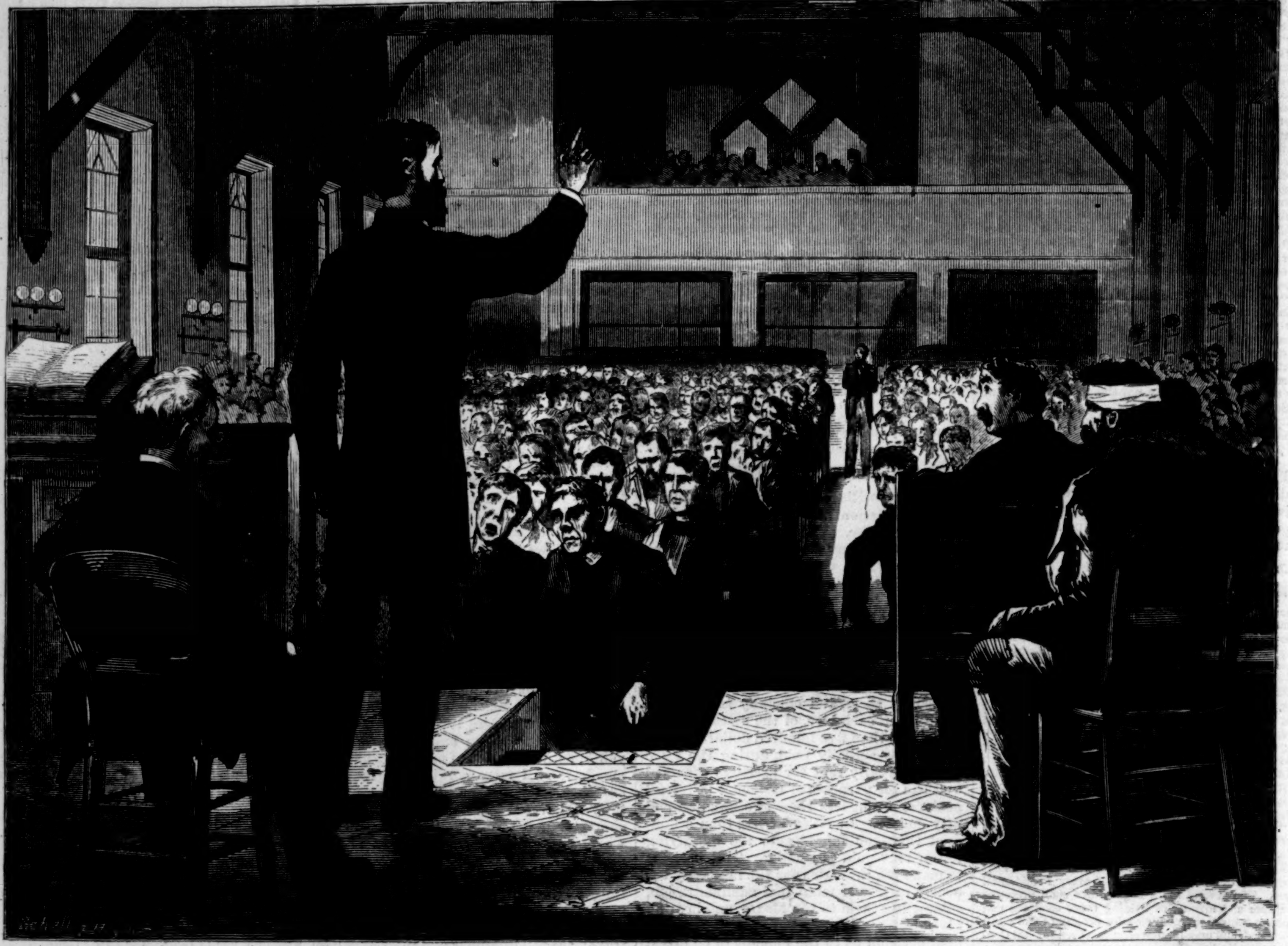
Re-enforcements have been sent to the Turkish forces in the vilayet of the Danube. Six war vessels will be ordered to Sulina, on the Black Sea, and five frigates to cruise in the Mediterranean.

A fire at Stamboul, on the 10th, destroyed between three hundred and five hundred houses. It originated in the Greek quarter, at about eleven o'clock at night, and rapidly mounted the hill. It was only extinguished on reaching the Turkish quarter at the summit. No public buildings were destroyed. Several firemen were injured, but no loss of life has yet been ascertained.

In the British House of Commons, on the 12th, Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer, presented the budget. He said there was an actual surplus of £448,000. The estimates for the coming year were: expenditures, £78,794,000; revenue, £79,020,000. No addition to or remission of taxation is proposed.

Prince Bismarck has been granted leave of absence until August next. An official letter from the prince was read in the Reichstag, on the 11th, expressing regret that the impaired state of his health prevented his attendance at Parliament. Herr Hofmann, President of the Imperial Chancellory, will take his place in the Department of Home Affairs, Herr Von Bülow in the Department of Foreign Affairs, and Herr Camphausen will represent him in the Prussian cabinet.

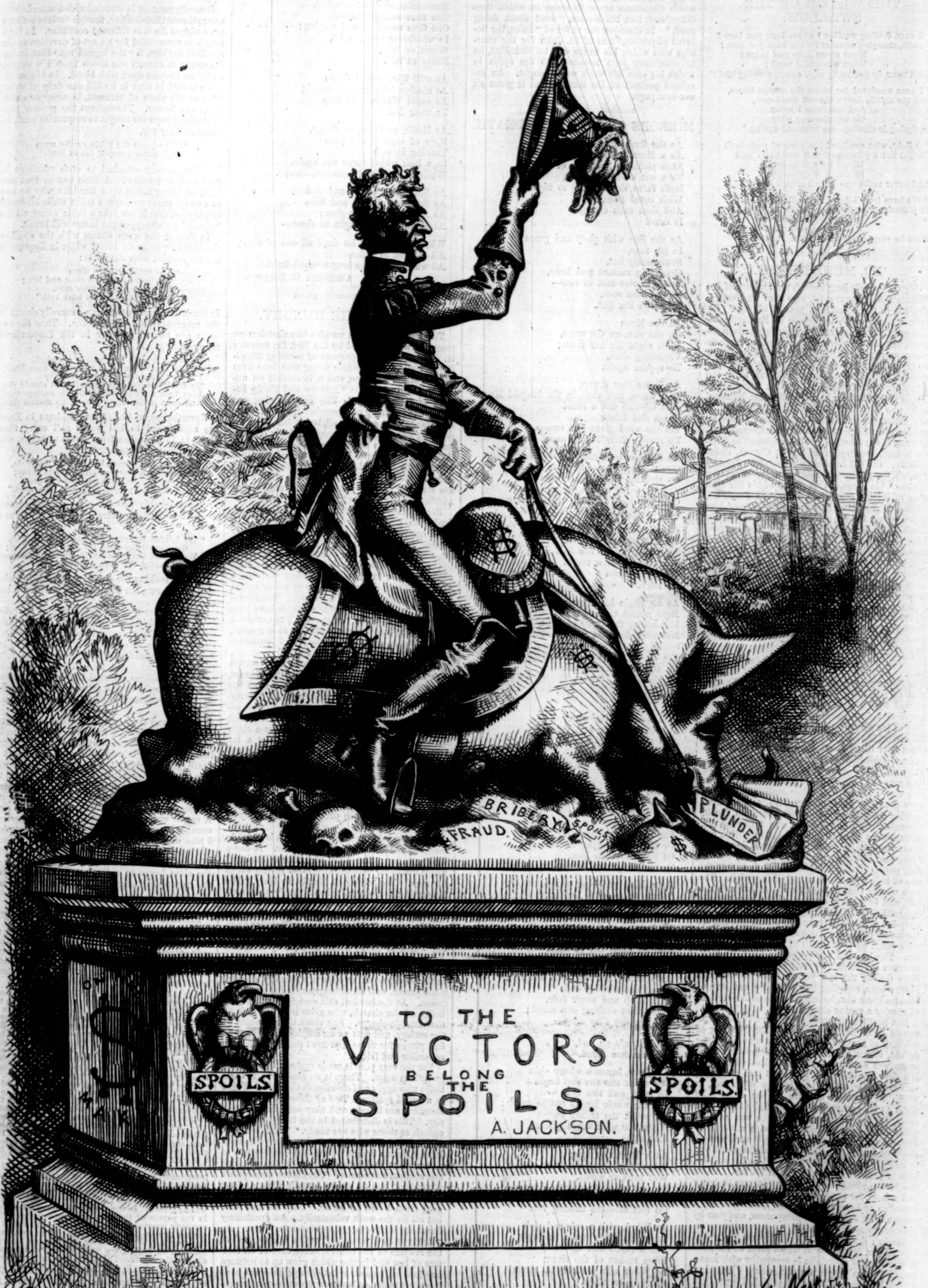
General Cortina left Matamoras, on the 8th, under a strong escort, for the mouth of the Rio Grande, where he subsequently embarked on the Mexican man-of-war *Liberta*, to be conveyed to Vera Cruz, where, it is believed, he will be placed in the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa.



SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEMPERANCE MEETING.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEA IN THE LECTURE-ROOM.

FEEDING THE HUNGRY—HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK.—Drawn by Schell and Hogan.—[See Page 326.]



IN MEMORIAM—OUR CIVIL SERVICE AS IT WAS.

THE WISDOM OF THE SWALLOW.

"O fair, fleeting swallow! where have you been?
O swift, changing swallow! what have you seen?
What songs have you heard?
What wonderful word?
What news do you bring us, O sweet, straying bird?"

"I have wandered far where the orange blows,
And the myrtle loveth the red musk-rose,
And the news I bring
On my glancing wing
Is, Spring is coming—the beautiful Spring."

"O light, wise swallow! has none of your band
Caught but a glimpse of that wonderful land
Where Love is so true
It lasteth life through,
And never seeks change, yet always is new?"

"We have travelled far to the East and West,
In a thousand lands we have built our nest,
But the tender skies
Where Love never dies
Must be sought not here, but in Paradise."

DR. MUHLENBERG.

New York will long cherish the memory of Dr. William A. Muhlenberg, who died on Sunday, April 8, in the eighty-first year of his age. He bore a name which is historic in Pennsylvania. His great-grandfather, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, was the founder of the Lutheran Church in this country; his grandfather, though an ordained clergyman, entered the Revolutionary army as a colonel, became a major-general, and, after the establishment of peace with Great Britain, was Vice-President of his native State. Dr. Muhlenberg was born in Philadelphia, 1796, studied in the University of Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in 1814, and was appointed, immediately upon his ordination, in 1817, assistant to Bishop White, then rector of Christ Church, Philadelphia. In 1821 he became rector of St. James's Church, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Tradition connects his name at this period of his life with that of James Buchanan, afterward President, as one of the actors in a romantic story of love returned but baffled, and ending tragically in the death of the ladies to whom the two friends would have plighted their faith. Young Muhlenberg's feelings sought relief in the poem by which he will be longest remembered—"I would not live alway." A part of this pathetic composition has been adopted by the churches as a hymn, and is much sung, especially on funeral occasions.

While in Lancaster Dr. Muhlenberg organized the first free school in that city, which was also the first in the State outside of Philadelphia. His interest in education did not cease at this point. In 1828 he established St. Paul's College, at Flushing, Long Island, which he directed for eighteen years. In 1846 he became the rector of the first free Episcopal church in the city of New York—that of the Holy Communion, which had been erected by his sister. Intent upon schemes of practical benevolence, he organized, about the time of his entrance upon this pastorate, the first Protestant Sisterhood in our country. His friends claim that this Sisterhood antedates Miss Sellon's, established at Plymouth and Devonport, England. Dr. Muhlenberg's next forward step was the founding of St. Luke's Hospital, in this city. Like many other institutions which have grown to greatness, St. Luke's arose from humble beginnings. The first collection for it, amounting to thirty dollars, was taken by Dr. Muhlenberg on St. Luke's Day, 1846. He felt the importance of a more perfect provision by the Protestant Episcopal churches of the city for the sick poor of their parishes. His first thought was of help for the sick of his own parish. The plan was in time enlarged so as to embrace the city, and in 1850 a charter of the hospital was obtained from the Legislature. The first subscription of $100,000 was soon filled, and lots on the corner of Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fourth Street were ceded by the Church of St. George the Martyr. The hospital was opened in 1858, Dr. Muhlenberg becoming its pastor and superintendent. Here during the last years of his life was his home; here, enjoying the reverence and love of all who knew him, he spent in the active services of charity a serene old age.

But perhaps the most original of Dr. Muhlenberg's benevolent schemes was the founding of a village of homes for the helpless, whether young or old, under the name of St. Johnland. The name was as happy as the original conception. His first outline of St. Johnland was presented to the public as an imaginative retrospect, in which he pictured the life of the community there to be gathered. The needed money soon came, for Dr. Muhlenberg's name was a guarantee of disinterestedness and wise administration. A tract of ground was bought on the north shore of Long Island in 1865, and the community quickly established. Self-help, so far as self-help is practicable, is the law of its life. There are in the village a home for old men, a home and school for boys, a hall and library, a printing-office and stereotype foundry, cottages, and a church. St. Johnland is prosperous, and year by year grows more attractive.

Though devoted to the Protestant Episcopal Church, Dr. Muhlenberg was a lover of all good men. He was especially in sympathy with measures taken to promote unity among Christians. At the Conference of the Evangelical Alliance, held in this city in 1873, he was one of the appointed essayists; he was also one of the projectors of the volume of the *Memorial Papers*, in which clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church invited the opinions of other Protestant ministers upon the best means of promoting Christian union. Dr. Muhlenberg will take his place as one of the finest examples in American church history of the good pastor. Neither in controversy nor in high debate did he care to be eminent; his voice was not heard where there was angry disputation. He preferred the things in which Christians agree to those in which they differ, and, like his Master, "went about doing good." In choosing the name of "Luke, the beloved physician," and of St. John for the charities with which his name will be identified, he unconsciously bore testimony to the spirit in which his own life work was wrought. An excellent portrait of Dr. Muhlenberg is given on our first page.

MIRRORS OF LIFE AND DEATH.

As the flush of a Morning Sky—
As a Morning Sky colorless—
Each yields its measure of light
To a wet world or a dry,
Each fares through day to night
With equal pace,
And then each one
Is done.

As the Sun with glory and grace
In his face,
Benignantly hot,
Graciously radiant and keen,
Ready to rise and to run—
Not without spot,
Not even the Sun.

As the Moon
On the wax, on the wane,
With night for her noon;
Vanishing soon,
To appear again.

As Roses that droop,
Half warm, half chill, in the languid May,
And breathe out a scent
Sweet and faint;
Till the wind gives one swoop
To scatter their beauty away.

As Lilies a multitude,
One dipping, one rising, one sinking,
On rippling waters clear blue
And pure for their drinking;
One new-dead, and one opened anew,
And all good.

As a cankered pale Flower
With death for a dower
Each hour of its life half dead,
With death for a crown
Weighing down
Its head.

As an Eagle half strength and half grace,
Most potent to face
Unwinking the glory of light,
Harrying the East and the West,
Soaring aloft from our sight:
Yet one day or one night dropped to rest
On the low common earth
Of his birth.

As a Dove,
Not alone,
In a world of her own
Full of fluttering soft noises
And tender sweet voices
Of love.

As a Mouse
Keeping house
In the fork of a tree,
With nuts in a crevice
And an acorn or two;
What cares he
For blossoming boughs,
Or the song-singing bevies
Of birds in their glee,
Scarlet or golden or blue?

As a Mole grubbing under-ground;
When it comes to the light
It grubs its way back again,
Feeling no bias of fur
To hamper it in its stir,
Scant of pleasure and pain,
Sinking itself out of sight
Without sound.

As Waters that drop and drop,
Weariness without end,
That drop and never stop,
Wear that nothing can mend;
Till one day they drop—
Stop—
And there's an end,
And matters mend.

As Trees, beneath whose skin
We mark not the sap begin
To swell and rise
Till the whole bursts out in green:
We mark the falling leaves
When the wide world grieves
And sighs.

As a Forest on fire;
Where maddened creatures desire
Wet mud or wings,
Beyond all those things
Which could assuage desire
On this side the flaming fire.

As Wind, with a sob and sigh
To which there comes no reply
But a rustle and shiver
From rushes of the river;
As Wind with a sorrowful moan
Moaning on alone.

As a Desert all sand,
Blank, neither water nor land
For solace, or dwelling, or culture,
Where the storms and the wild creatures howl;
Given over to lion and vulture,
To ostrich and jackal and owl:
Yet somewhere an oasis lies;
There waters arise
To nourish one seedling of balm,
Perhaps, or one palm.

As the Sea
Murmuring, shifting, swaying,
One time sunnily playing,
One time wrecking and slaying;
In whichever mood it be,
Worst or best,
Never at rest.

As still Waters and deep;
As shallow Waters that brawl;
As rapid Waters that leap
To their fall.

As Music, as Color, as Shape,
Keys of rapture and pain
Turning in vain
In a lock which turns not again,
While breaths and moments escape.

As Spring, all bloom and desire;
As Summer, all gift and fire;
As Autumn, a dying glow;
As Winter, with naught to show—

Winter which lays its dead all out of sight,
All clothed in white,
All waiting for the long-awaited light.

Christina G. Rossetti.

FEEDING THE HUNGRY.

The charity of which we give two sketches on page 324 was instituted by the Rev. Dr. Stephen H. Tyng, Jun., for the purpose of rescuing friendless, penniless, or dissolute young men from lives of temptation and vice, and it is carried on under the control of the "Andrew and Philip Society of Holy Trinity." The first meeting was held on the evening of December 26, 1875. The attendance was quite small, but it has been increasing ever since, and many hundreds of poor people have been assisted to lead virtuous lives through the material help and moral influence afforded by the society. Many have joined the church. Several of the young men thus aided are studying for the ministry. The society now numbers about six hundred members.

Besides clothing the more destitute, the church feeds the hungry every Sunday afternoon. In the large room in the basement of Holy Trinity Church, in Madison Avenue, six long tables are set, each accommodating thirty-two people. The bill of fare is, of course, simple, including a meat sandwich, two large rolls or sweet biscuits, a saucer of apple sauce, and a cup of tea or coffee, two cups being allowed if asked for. Sometimes between six and seven hundred people have been fed in a day at these tables. Dr. Tyng or some other clergyman is always present to say grace, and there are generally a number of spectators in the room.

Before the meal is served there is a temperance lecture in the chapel on Forty-third Street, where persons who have been rescued from the vice of drunkenness make addresses and exhortations. The speaking is always earnest and effective. After the meal there is a Gospel service in the chapel. Dr. Tyng usually makes a short address, and a sermon is delivered by a lay preacher from the society. Singing is a great feature of this service. Moody and Sankey hymns are sung by the congregation with great enthusiasm and feeling. The service ends with the Doxology and an invitation to attend the evening service in the church. Viewed from the platform, the audience presents a rare study of faces.

Aside from this meeting, the church is active in many ways for the good of the poor. It has a society called "The Mary and Martha Society," which works for women as the other society works for men. The saying of Martha to Mary, "The Master is come, and calleth for thee," is the motto of that society, which is composed of shop-women, servants in families, and the better class of working-women. They meet every Tuesday evening and have a tea. Afterward they have a meeting which is partly social and partly religious. At the close of that gathering they go to the evangelistic meeting. These meetings are held in the basement of the church, where are kitchen, dining-room, and all arrangements for such purposes. At the head of this society is one of the ladies of the church, who gives her time to it as the sister-in-charge. She visits the members of the society, and acts as an employment agent to find places for those that need them, and is their counselor and friend.

For the very poor is made systematic provision in various ways. There is an almoner who visits those who apply and distributes the alms. There is a bread system. Two or three of the church members are bakers, and they send bread every day. This is distributed in the basement of the church to those who are needy. There is an arrangement for furnishing coal to those who need it; a "Dorcas Society" furnishes employment to poor women, and a dispensary furnishes medicine and medical attendance. The church employs six physicians, one of whom attends every day for an hour and a half, and a visiting physician who goes from house to house. They are not paid, but all do the work voluntarily. An apothecary furnishes all the drugs at wholesale prices. An "Arbitration Committee," which is composed of the lawyers of the church, takes care of all matters of law and justice which grow up as between landlord and tenant, or between persons who have made contracts, or between the employer and employed, where the latter are defrauded of their wages. Legal questions are gratuitously adjusted for the poor who can not afford to pay for the services of a lawyer. Finally, a burial society provides interment for the poor.

In short, all the arrangements made by the church for the poor and needy appear to be eminently practical and effective, and present an example of true Christian work worthy of Christian men and women.

THE ROBIN AND THE WREN.

Robin-Redbreast is invested with a sacred character all over Christendom, though various reasons are assigned for it in different countries. In Brittany it is reverenced for an act of devotion to the crucified Saviour, for the legend runs that, in endeavoring to extract one thorn from His crown, its breast became dyed with blood. In Wales the robin is said to bear in its bill one drop of water daily to the place of torment, in order to extinguish the flames. Throughout the greater part of England boys are taught to respect its nest; in Cornwall they say,

"Who hurts the robin or the wren
Will never prosper, sea or land."

But the penalty attached to such sacrilege in Dartmoor is peculiar. A little boy in that district, on being asked by a traveller why he was so careful never to harm a robin while birdnesting, replied that if you take a robin's nest, all the "clomb" (crockery) in the house will break.

In France the wren shares with the swallow the title of "poule de Dieu," while in England it is thus coupled with the robin:

"The robin and the wren
Are God Almighty's cock and hen;
Him that harries their nest,
Never shall his soul have rest."

In the latter country the wren generally shares in the reverence paid to the robin. Thus the two birds are named together in the Pastorals of George Smith, a.d. 1770:

"I found a robin's nest within our shed,
And in the barn a wren her young ones bred;
I never take away their nest, nor try
To catch the old ones, lest a friend should die.
Dick took a wren's nest from his cottage side,
And ere a twelvemonth passed, his mother died."

Nevertheless, at Christmas tide, boys in Essex are accustomed to kill wrens and carry them about in furze bushes from house to house, asking a present in these words:

"The wren, the wren, the king of the birds,
St. Stephen's Day was killed in the furze;
Although he be little, his honor is great,
And so, good people, pray give us a treat."

It is remarkable that the same custom extends to the Isle of Man, where the following verse is used:

"We hunted the wren for Robin the Bobbin,
We hunted the wren for Jack of the Can;
We hunted the wren for Robin the Bobbin,
We hunted the wren for every one."

And after making the circuit and collecting what money they can, the boys lay the wren on a bier and bury it.

This singular usage, which has also prevailed in Ireland and in France, has been thus explained: The bird had a sacred character among the Celts, and also among the Greeks. It was the bearer of celestial fire, and disputed with the eagle the kingship of the feathered creation. Early Christian teachers opposed the superstitious respect paid to the little creature, and their lessons were singularly embodied in this cruel persecution.

In Scotland the song of the robin is thought to bode ill to the sick person who hears it, and a similar belief holds in Northamptonshire, where, indeed, the bird is counted a certain prophet of death, and is said to tap three times at the window of a dying person's room. Thus, also, at St. John's College, Hurstpierpoint, the boys maintain that when a death takes place a robin will enter the chapel, light upon the altar, and begin to sing. A recent visitor to Scotland writes: "Singularly enough, I saw this happen myself on one occasion. I was in the chapel one evening at six o'clock, when a robin entered at the open circular east window in the temporary apse, and lighting on the altar, began to chirp. A few minutes later the passing-bell began to toll for a boy who had just died."

HOME AND FOREIGN GOSSIP.

An arrangement has been concluded between the Superintendent of the United States Naval Observatory at Washington and the Western Union Telegraph Company for disseminating the standard time as determined daily by the Observatory. The general plan is as follows:

"At 11 h. 55 m. a time-ball will be hoisted half-way up the iron flag-staff on the tower of the Western Union Building. This ball is three feet six inches in diameter, and can be seen by all the shipping lying at the New York and Brooklyn docks and on the New Jersey shore, as well as by all vessels lying in the bay, even beyond Quarantine. For long distances an ordinary ship's glass will be needed. It can also be seen on Broadway from Tenth Street nearly to the Battery, and from suitable positions it can be seen by a large majority of the citizens of New York and vicinity.

"The ball will remain at half-mast from 11 h. 55 m. to 11 h. 58 m. At 11 h. 58 m. it will be hoisted to its highest point, about half-way up the main staff, that is, over 250 feet above the street. It will be dropped by an electric signal exactly at noon by New York time.

"If, on account of high winds, etc., the ball fails to fall at noon, it will be kept at the mast-head till 12 h. 5 m., and then dropped at 12 h. 5 m. In such cases, a small red flag will be hoisted at 12 h. 1 m., and kept flying till 12 h. 10 m.

"The time of falling of the ball will record itself automatically, by electricity, near the standard clock of the Western Union Company (which is regulated by signals from the Washington Observatory), and if by any cause it does not fall precisely at noon, its error will be known. In the evening papers of the day and in the papers of the next morning a notice will be regularly inserted stating whether the ball fell at the correct time, and if not, its error. In this way, even signals which high winds or other causes have prevented from being given precisely, will still be available for the regulation of clocks and chronometers."

This ball will serve to regulate the time in New York city; and the Western Union Telegraph Company propose to make arrangements for distributing this noon signal to various cities of the United States having over 20,000 inhabitants.

After lying more than three months stranded on the beach at Seabright, the *Amérique* was again launched on the waters, and taken to her dock in Brooklyn for examination and repairs. Ever since January 7, when she went ashore, about seventy-five men, from the steamer's crew and from the Coast Wrecking Company, have labored incessantly to save the ship. Often

when success seemed near, a terrible gale has arisen to defeat them, as it were, and has placed the vessel in a worse position than before. But faithful perseverance at length conquered.

It is proposed to organize an athletic club in the Police Department, to improve the physical condition of the members. Professor Miller, the athlete, has signified his willingness to take charge of the club and give instruction. A small entrance fee of fifty cents will be charged, and half that sum will be required as monthly dues. After expenses are paid, whatever money remains in the treasury will be used for the benefit of the families of deceased members. The club will have games, boat-races, etc., open to competition by officers only; and one or more public games every year, open to amateurs only.

The high winds of April are doing their utmost to scatter the poisonous dust of the streets into every nook and corner of our city. However much street-cleaning may have been hindered during the winter months by snow and ice, now there seems to be not a shadow of a reason why the citizens of New York should suffer such discomfort and positive harm from the condition of our thoroughfares.

Medical diplomas were recently awarded to twelve graduates of the Woman's Medical College of the New York Infirmary, and to nine graduates of the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women.

At Geneva a blind man's newspaper, called the *Journal des Aveugles*, is soon to be issued. It will be printed on type invented by a gentleman named Recordon, which is said to be a very great improvement, both in point of simplicity and cheapness, on previous methods. A principal feature is that each letter has small holes in it, to which the fingers quickly become sensitive, and the position of the holes determines the letters.

In many European countries the "Children's Carnival," about Easter, is an established custom. But the entertainment given this year at the Academy of Music was the first of the kind in this country. The festival commenced at a very early hour in the evening, so that the little folks might not be deprived of their night's sleep. Nearly a thousand children participated in the carnival, and their evident enjoyment and picturesque costumes made a beautiful scene. The Academy was crowded with admiring spectators; and when the fairy dancing was ended, and the little ones sent home to bed, the regular ball for grown persons commenced. The entertainment was for the benefit of the Homœopathic Western Dispensary.

Preparations are now being made for placing in the chancel of Trinity Church the new reredos erected to the memory of William B. Astor by his sons. On account of its size, several changes in the chancel will be necessary, but it is expected that it will be in position in a few weeks. The cost of the reredos is about $50,000.

It is related of Bishop Simpson, the eminent Methodist divine, that soon after his election to the episcopacy he happened to be in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and was introduced to a clergyman there as "Brother Simpson," and allowed to preach in his pulpit on Sunday morning. While the collection was being taken, the clergyman, who was astonished at the preacher's eloquence, asked,

"Are you a travelling preacher?"

"Yes," said Bishop Simpson, "I have been an itinerant for several years, and now travel a very large circuit."

"What conference do you belong to?"

"I did belong to the Pittsburg, but I can not say that I am attached to any particular conference."

"What did you say your name was?"

"Simpson."

"Simpson! Not Bishop Simpson?"

"Why, they call me bishop sometimes."

Greatly surprised, the minister rose, and exclaimed,

"I have the pleasure to announce to the congregation that the eloquent preacher who has addressed us this morning is Bishop Simpson."

The ungenial spring has provoked some chilly poet to issue in the Burlington *Hawkeye* the following pathetic appeal to the "spring bird:"

"Dear little bluebird,
  Herald of spring,
Swallow this cough drop.
  Poor little thing!
Warbling so hoarsely
  Of April's approach;
Hunting around for a
  Bronchial troche.

"Poor little bluebird,
  Don't you go off;
Tie up your little neck;
  Doctor that cough.
Soon April violets,
  Kissed by the breeze,
Will shiver and wince as they
  List to your sneeze.

"Don't be discouraged yet,
  Herald of spring;
Shake all the icicles
  Off from your wing.
Who knows what wonders
  Cough cure may do!
Sing little bluebird—
  'At-chee! At-choo!'"

Within a few weeks, on two occasions, a fire has occurred in Catholic churches, caused by gauze drapery being in the vicinity of gas lights. On both occasions, fortunately, the fire was speedily extinguished, and an impending panic in the audience was quelled, so that no serious consequences followed. But light, inflammable drapery any where near gas lights or candles is as dangerous in a church as in a theatre.

Rooms have been fitted up in the new building of the New York Hospital on Fifteenth Street for out-door patients. It is proposed to have experienced physicians and surgeons in attendance from 2 to 4 P.M.—Sundays excepted—and trained nurses, who will be able to treat the most serious diseases. Not only patients from the city will be treated, but those from other towns or States can share the benefits of this arrangement. By this branch of hospital service persons of moderate means, or those who are wholly destitute, may obtain the best medical and surgical treatment.

An exchange informs us that a while ago the Amherst Agricultural College made some experiments to prove that the maple sap from which sugar is made in the spring is laid up in the tree the year before. In December a maple-tree, having been fixed in an upright position, was sawed off near the ground, and the end of the trunk hermetically sealed with wax. Thus the tree stood until spring, when it was tapped, and yielded its average amount of sugar, although the tree had been severed from its roots upward of three months. A young maple was cut in the winter, brought into the greenhouse, and tapped. It soon began to flow sap, and continued to do so for thirty-six hours, when the flow stopped. The tree was then taken out of doors, and allowed to freeze again. Upon being brought back to the greenhouse the sap resumed its flow, and continued to do so as long as the alternate freezing and thawing processes were kept up.

They have a new anaconda, about twenty feet long, at the Zoological Gardens, London. He was caught in South America, and was shipped to England in a large box. He swallows a duck with relish every morning.

Milk and lime-water are now frequently prescribed by physicians in cases of dyspepsia and weakness of the stomach. Often when the functions of digestion and assimilation have been seriously impaired, a diet of bread, milk, and lime-water has an excellent effect. The way to make lime-water is simply to procure a few lumps of unslaked lime, put the lime in a stone jar, add water until the lime is slaked and of about the consistence of thin cream; the lime settles, leaving the pure and clear lime-water at the top. Three or four table-spoonfuls of it may be added to a goblet of milk.

It is related of Gounod that not long ago he was leaning out of his box at the Théâtre Lyrique, in Paris, at the first representation of the *Timbre d'Argent*, and was following the music so intently, with his eyes fixed on the score, which he held in his hand, that the audience began watching him. Suddenly a voice in the gallery said, "That fellow in the box wants to make us think that he can read music."

A characteristic incident is related of Daniel Webster, which may be new to some of our readers: On one occasion General Fessenden reached Boston early in the morning, some urgent business demanding the immediate attention of himself and Webster. He accordingly tore out a leaf from his tablets and wrote thereon his address, asking for an interview without delay. The messenger returned promptly, bringing a neatly folded note, closing with his clear, manful signature, thus: "In bed, but always yours. Daniel Webster." General Fessenden was a gentleman of the old school, and in relating the incident he remarked: "I felt the propriety of the rebuke. Mr. Webster was not a man to be lightly approached. He never, in all my intercourse, failed in observing not only all the proprieties, but the graces of intercourse."

A romantic history is given to a valuable diamond, which is said to be now for sale by a firm in Salt Lake City. It weighs eight and a half carats, and is half an inch in diameter. It is related of it that for many hundred years it was in the family of an East India prince, and by him presented to Queen Christiana of Spain, who gave it to her daughter Isabella on the occasion of her marriage. When Isabella was forced to part with it, a gentleman from St. Louis purchased it at an auction sale in London. Subsequently it was stolen from him at Saratoga Springs, but on the offer of $5000 and "no questions asked," it was returned. Afterward this same gentleman went to Salt Lake City and sold his diamond for mining property valued at $22,000. The mine developed well, and the lucky speculator realized over $60,000 from this investment. The miner who received the stone was cheated out of it by Chicago gamblers, who sold it to a diamond dealer, who in turn sold it to the firm in Salt Lake City who now possess it.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Calendar.

APRIL, 1877.

Sunday, 29.—Fourth Sunday after Easter.

MAY.

Tuesday, 1.—SS. Philip and James.
Sunday, 6.—Fifth Sunday after Easter.
Thursday, 10.—Ascension-day.
Sunday, 13.—Sunday after Ascension.
Sunday, 20.—Whit-Sunday.
Monday, 21.—Whitsun-Monday.
Sunday, 27.—Trinity-Sunday.

The arrangements for the great spring religious conventions begin to be announced. The National Temperance Society will hold its twelfth anniversary at Association Hall, Philadelphia, May 15. A preliminary anniversary meeting will be held in the Church of the Covenant, New York, May 8. The Northern and Southern Presbyterian Assemblies will meet on May 17, the one in Chicago, the other in New Orleans. The Baptist anniversaries will be held in Providence—the Missionary Union on May 22 and 23, the Educational Commission on the 23d, the Home Missionary Society on the 24th, and the Publication Society on the 25th. The bishops of the Southern Methodist Episcopal Church meet in Nashville on May 2, the Book Committee on May 3, and the Board of Missions on May 4.

The Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler is a fine example of available talent well applied. On the seventeenth anniversary of his pastoral charge of the Lafayette Avenue Church, Brooklyn, which recently occurred, he stated that in a ministry of thirty-one years he had received 3385 members, 1700 of them on profession of faith. One Bible class in his church has on its roll 180 young men and women. Mr. Cuyler has also been a most prolific writer for the religious press. In a certain hortatory vein of composition he has few, if any, superiors. The results of the work of an educated minister are not, however, to be measured wholly by the numbers gathered into churches. The tone which he gives to the thinking of society counts for much, and is an educating power.

New York is frequently said to rank as the third German city in population in the whole world, and Mr. Lewis E. Jackson, who has devoted years to its religious statistics, confirms this judgment. Vienna has a population of 834,000; Berlin, of 825,000; and New York has within its limits 250,000 Germans. Of this number, 165,000 are German born, and 85,000, their children, born here. The religious affinities of this large body of the city's residents are stated to be as follows: Protestants, 80,000; Roman Catholics, 60,000; Jews, 60,000; unclassified, 50,000. Of the Protestants, the Lutherans are the most numerous; then follow the Reformed, Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians. The number of communicants in the German churches of the city is put by Mr. Jackson at 14,432. Contrary to the general impression, the immigration to this country from Germany exceeded that from Ireland during the last thirty years by 100,000. The population of Ireland being now only about 6,000,000, and the people generally prosperous, our supply from that quarter is not likely to be very great during thirty years to come.

It is estimated that 2000 business men attend the daily noon prayer-meetings organized in the various centres of trade in Boston. The first held for the representatives of the press was presided over by an editor of the Boston *Journal*, and was attended by 120 persons. The market-men's meeting has outgrown its accommodations, and has been twice moved to obtain more room. The Summer Street gathering for dry-goods men and their clerks has an attendance of 500 or more. In the evenings the Tabernacle is filled. The argumentative discourses of the Rev. Joseph Cook at the Tremont Temple are helpful to Mr. Moody by presenting in logical form the truths which contain the substance of the evangelist's addresses. Speaking, on April 2, of unbelief, Mr. Cook made this strong assertion: "I do not know of a single infidel book over a hundred years old that has not been put on the upper neglected shelf by scholars."

A correspondent of the *Christian Advocate*, of this city, explains the manner in which the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal Church has come to have a pew for the President of the United States: "When the church was dedicated, Mr. Thomas Kelso and General Berry, of Baltimore, each gave $5000, which, in view of the well-known fact that the then President and Vice-President would both worship there, they directed to be applied in payment of pews for their use, and a pew was also similarly set apart for the use of the Chief Justice. These pews were severally occupied by President Grant, Vice-President Colfax, and Chief Justice Chase, eight years by the first and four years by the second and third, each of whom took a deep interest in the church. When Governor Hayes was declared elected, the trustees informed him that there was a pew for his accommodation, and expressed the wish that he would worship with them, if he was so disposed. Had Mr. Tilden been elected, he would have received a like communication. The church was built for man, and not for a partisan."

There will be now an Egyptian branch of the Evangelical Alliance. Under the prompting of the Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff, who is abroad, a meeting was held in the chapel of the American mission, Cairo, for the purpose of organization. There was a good attendance of native Christians, as well as of foreign residents. Addresses were delivered in English, German, and Arabic. The need of association for protection against the interference of Moslem officials is well understood by missionaries in the Nile Valley. The watchfulness of the American and English branches of the Evangelical Alliance in guarding religious liberty every where is one of their most valuable services to the Christian world.

A circular of the English Liberation Society proposes that Dissenters make the disestablishment of the State Church the test question to candidates for Parliament in future elections.

The time and place of the National Council of the Congregational Churches have been determined—the place Detroit, the time October 17. The Council meets triennially. There will be two general topics of discussion—"Education," and the "Religious Movements and Measures of the last three Years." Education will be treated (1) as to its secular and religious aspects, (2) as to its geographical relations, and (3) as to the comparative efficiency of the State and denominational systems of high culture. Religious measures will be considered under the heads of (1) Mr. Moody's work, (2) Sunday-school work, (3) fellowship meetings, and (4) woman's work. Delegates will be elected by the spring local Conferences.

One of the new measures, of which there are so many in our day, has been a free conference of ministers and laymen on the "Relations of the Pew and the Pulpit," called by Dr. Joseph Parker, of the City Temple, London. The object of the conference was to bring the pulpit and the pew into closer sympathy, than which nothing could be better. The opinions expressed by the laymen who attended were by no means harmonious, and yet all the lay addresses showed an earnest desire to have the pulpit become more efficient. At one of the sessions of the conference Mr. Gladstone made an address which charmed all who heard him. He suggested that "the fault of an imperfect sympathy was often with the hearers, and that the pulpit got less than justice from the pew, and that there was need of a desire in the congregation to receive as well as of ability in the preacher to bestow." He touched upon pulpit peculiarities with great sagacity, saying that, although "some peculiarities in a preacher might want modifying, it would not be well that they should altogether disappear." As instances in point, Mr. Gladstone cited Dr. John H. Newman, when he was a Low-Churchman, and Mr. Sheil, of the House of Commons. Dr. Newman's "voice was inflexible, he was entirely without action in the pulpit, his sermons were all read, and in reading them he kept his eyes fixed on his book. But there was that in him which charmed all hearts and ears, and by his gentle force he drew around him the flower of the Oxford youth." Of Mr. Sheil the account was more extraordinary. "If you will imagine," said Mr. Gladstone, "the cracked sound of an old battered tin kettle, knocked first on this side and then on that, you will have the nearest possible idea of the voice of Sheil; and yet, though thirty-five years have elapsed since I heard him, his presence and tone are as distinctly memorable as if they were things of yesterday." Mr. Gladstone expressed the opinion that any strangeness of manner, such as he had described, "was infinitely to be preferred to conventionality." This, from the master-orator of England, is well worthy of the consideration of ministers of every theological school.

It is reported that Lord Penzance will resign the office of Judge of the Court of Arches. The reason given is the proposed reduction of the salary.

For once the Italian government has answered the Pope. The papal allocution of March 12 was such a violent arraignment of Italy before the world that Signor Mancini has issued a circular to the law-officers of the crown, in which he characterizes the allocution in strong terms. He directs them to institute legal proceedings against all editors and conductors of the press who republish the allocution *with seditious comments*. To the republication of the allocution alone no objection is made, the government being willing to "leave to the people to appreciate it according to their own good sense, of which they have already given so many proofs." The seditious purport of the allocution is thus marked: "The allocution inveighs vehemently against the will of the Italian people, expressed by the suffrage of solemn plebiscites, and against the national sovereignty, which it does not shrink from styling a usurpation, and against the free institutions and legitimate powers of the state, and against the most important laws and reforms which were approved by the concordant authorities of both branches of the legislature, and sanctioned by the king. Certainly there is not in Europe or the world any government which could tolerate such an injury and such an open incitement of the people to cease to yield loyalty and respect to the existing political order and to the laws of the country, with risk of exciting in their midst civil agitations and discords." Signor Mancini expresses in this circular the expectation that the Italian Senate will approve the Clerical Abuses Bill, as the House of Deputies has done.

HUMORS OF THE DAY.

Human nature is indeed a curious study. A boy may sing "Hold the Fort" so sweetly on Sunday that the very walls of Zion tingle with the sacred melody, and yet you wouldn't recognize him on week-days, when he comes out from swimming, and finds out that some other boy has hopelessly knotted up his shirt sleeves and trousers legs.

A New York girl sang "Darling, I am growing old," with an expression so pertinent and truthful that her procrastinating lover left her for good.

Pat Maginnis has a very stubborn mule, which he calls "Old Musket." On being asked why he gave the mule that name, he said, "Because the stubborn beast won't go off without a kick."

"Have you any boned turkey?" asked a hungry customer in a Nevada restaurant. The proprietor laid his hand on his revolver, and cried, "No insinerations here, young man. We're honest here, and don't 'bone' nothin'."

Somebody writes to a rural paper to ask "how long cows should be milked." Why, the same as short cows, of course!

The husband who informed his wife six months ago that he would let her put out the washing as soon as times improved, has kept his promise. He lets her put it out—on the line. And still she is not happy.

"Do you ever have any 'hops' in Maine?" asked a New York belle, who was dressing for a ball, of a country cousin from the Pine-tree State. "Oh yes, lots; pa has forty acres of 'em in one field."

"Why, Nora," cried Mrs. Reginald, aghast, "why did you boil the potatoes without removing the eyes?" "Sure, missus," said Nora, with a smile, "an'—an' if I cut out the petaties' eyes, how will they see to boil?"

"Mother, have I any children?" asked an urchin of eight summers. "Why, no! What put that into your head?" returned the parent. "Because I read to-day about children's children," answered the acute juvenile.

A Danbury couple have a nice little girl of some five summers. A lady visitor lately observed to the mother, "What a pretty child you have! She must be a great comfort to you." "She is indeed," said the fond mother. "When I'm mad at John, I don't have to speak to him. She calls him to his meals, and tells him to get up the coal and other things that I want. She is real handy."

A quarrel happening between an old gentleman and his son, the former reproached the young man with his ingratitude. "I am under no obligation to you," said the youth; "on the contrary, you have done me a serious injury, for if you had never been born, I should now have been heir to my grandfather."

An unsuccessful lover was asked by what means he lost his divinity. "Alas!" cried he, "I flattered her until she got too proud to speak to me."

"When a great man dies," says Quilp, "the first thing done is to resolve to build a monument to his memory, and the second is—not to build it."

A great drinker being at table, they offered him grapes at dessert. "Thank you," said he, pushing back the plate, "I don't take my wine in *pills*."

A celebrated poet advertised that he would supply "lines for any occasion." A fisherman sought him soon after, and wanted "a line strong enough to catch a porpoise."

Apt to be hot-headed.—The man who has a fire in his eye.

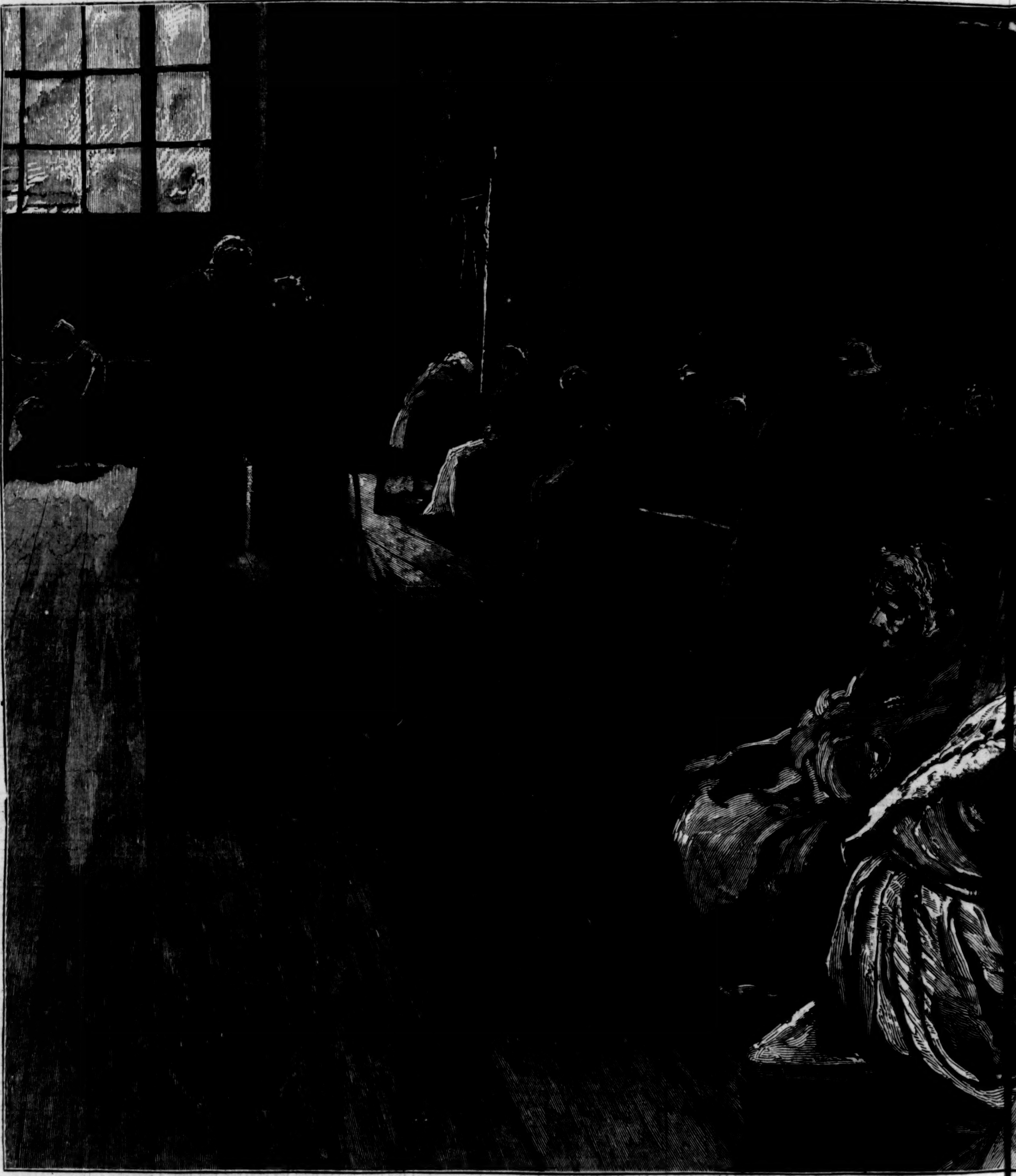
"You didn't laugh at my stupidity before we were married; you always said I was a duck of a lover," grumbled a complaining husband. "Yes, that's so," replied the wife; "and a duck of a lover is almost sure to make a goose of a husband."

From the Stock Exchange.—The speculator in stocks is always ready to "bear" them in mind.

The conundrum that now agitates London is, "How can an unmarried man sew his shirt to a collar button without losing the needle under his thumb-nail?"

A person always meets with a warm reception at a hotel. The minute he arrives he is placed on the register.

The following paragraphs, intended to have been printed separately, were by some blunder so arranged that they read consecutively in a Paris journal: "Dr. —— has been appointed head physician to the Hôpital de la Charité."—"Orders have been issued by the authorities for the immediate extension of the cemetery of Mont Parnasse; the works are being executed with the utmost dispatch."



THE EVENING OF LIFE—SCEN

THE EVENING OF LIFE.

THE word work-house was originally applied to institutions where idle able-bodied persons—"valiant rogues," in sixteenth-century phrase—were compelled to work. Gradually the term has become more and more of a misnomer. Stringent regulations have weeded out many of the able-bodied paupers, and children are sent to separate establishments, where they are not contaminated by the example of their pauper elders, so that the majority of those who remain "in the house" are aged and infirm.

But without attempting to discuss the question of pauperism, let us turn to Mr. HERKOMER's picture. The scene is a sad one, yet not altogether without its alleviations. Many of these old people are not quite friendless. They have relations and acquaintances whom they go to see on Sundays and holidays. Female paupers, moreover, have two advantages over their male comrades. All except the very decrepit can make shift to do some sort of needle-work, knitting, etc., whereas old men too often are hanging objectless about, grumbling at the slowness with which the moments pass which are hurrying them to their graves. Again, most men get into the work-house by their own fault: by idleness, or intemperance, or improvidence. A woman, on the contrary, may be a pattern of industry and frugality, and yet be dragged down to pauperism by a bad husband. Such cases are common enough. Still, it must be admitted that a good many of the women who have to seek parish relief in their declining days have themselves to blame for it. In conclusion, let us quote a few words from a letter in which Mr. HERKOMER, the artist, speaks of his drawing: "These poor old bodies formed a most touching picture. Work they would, for industry was still in them; but it was often most childish work; still, it *was* work. The agony of threading their needles was affecting indeed." The drawing represents the scene to which the artist thus alludes, in the old women's ward of a London "work-house."

"FAR-AWAY MOSES."

I.—THE GIRLS VISIT AN EASTERN BAZAR.

"WHEN pa comes I mean to ask him for a really splendid present on my twentieth birthday," said Fanny, standing before the mirror to give her Cavalier hat a blow on one side which imparted to it the rakish appearance now considered indispensable to the head-gear of a respectable young lady.

"What should you like?" demanded the three other sisters, with eager interest.

"A new silk dress?" hazarded Nelly, with a pin in her mouth.

"A pair of French
ing her cravat.

"One of those lovely
Blanche, with triumph

Fanny mused over th
and shook her head.

"One can never h
I suppose," she assent
and gloves. "Still, I
thing unusual, and tell

Aunt Hannah regard
feet at the fire, and a
inflamed nose. Fain
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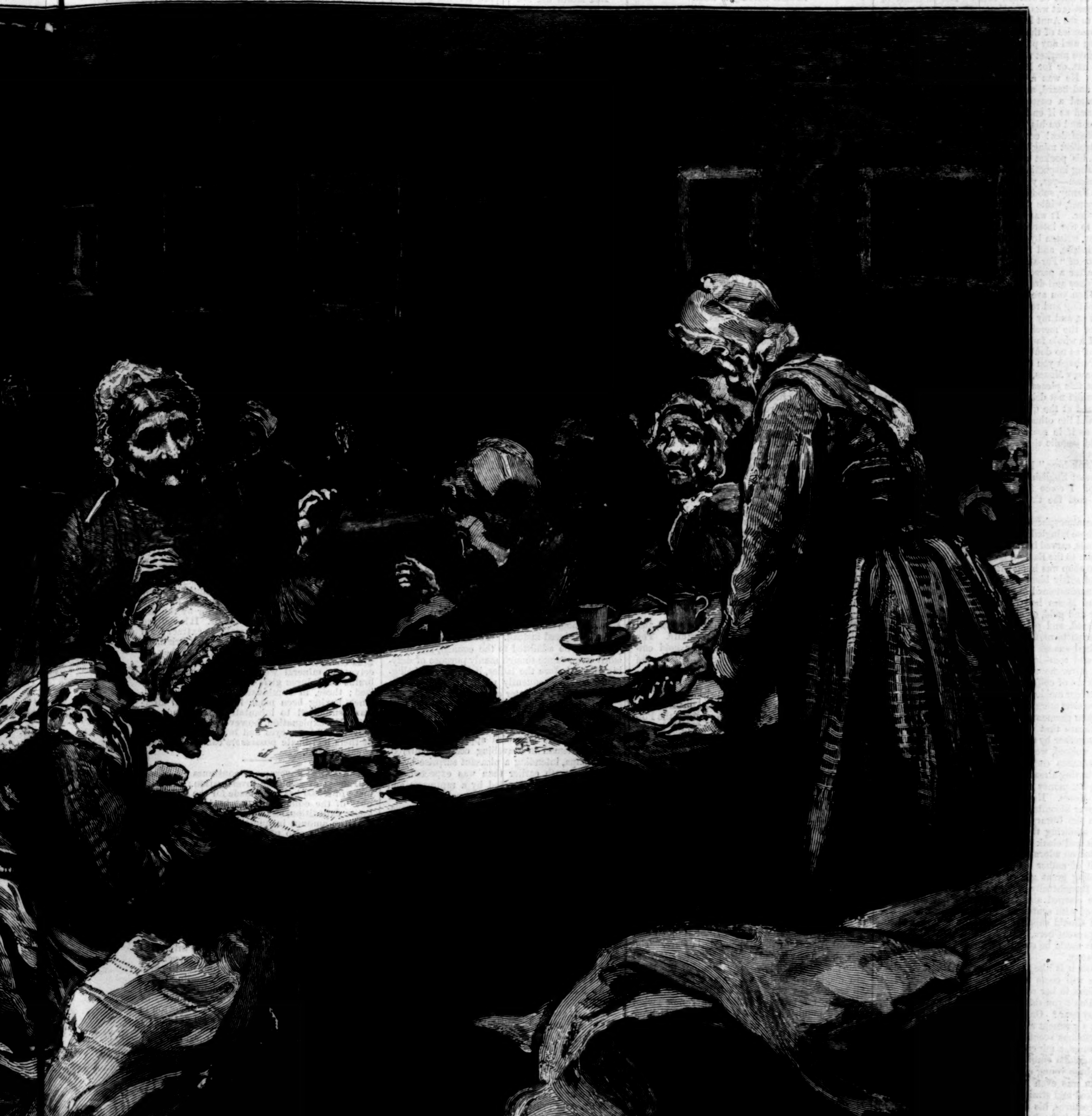


SCENE IN A LONDON "WORK-HOUSE."

French ppers?" added Kate, ty-

se lovely osaic jewel boxes?" said triumph t conviction.

d over th e suggestions a moment, head.

never h too many mosaic boxes, he assent , taking up her parasol "Still, I all look about for some- , and tell when he comes."

h regard her flock dubiously, her , and a mphor bottle held to her

Fain ld Aunt Hannah, guard- ung flo conform to the usages quette in things; but it did seem unreasonable to keep them pent up within-doors just because she had caught an influenza in the Nice sunshine.

"I question the propriety of your going out, my dears," she said, anxiously. "People in the hotel may criticise; and suppose some impertinent man should speak to you in the street, just because you have no chaperon?"

"We are American girls, and can take care of ourselves, aunt," retorted Fanny, the leader, with spirit. "I will attack the impertinent man who dares to accost us, with my parasol. There! we will not even venture on the Promenade des Anglais at all, but keep to back streets altogether."

The girls accordingly sallied forth, and Aunt Hannah subsided into the interesting book she had selected from the Galignani Library. Silly young strangers, to avoid the Charybdis of peril on the shore, only to be ingulfed in a more treacherous Scylla of back streets! The Avenue de la Gare of Nice is not an especially attractive thoroughfare on a winter morning, with mud on the pavement, the wind sweeping down from the snow-capped mountains, and the sun withdrawing shyly from the tall buildings to stretch like a golden curtain beyond arcades marking the margin of open square, clustering palm-trees, and glittering blue sea. Here more than in any other locality the gay watering-place of the Riviera seems to have never quite attained completion; there is always a *débris* of loose bricks and mortar under foot, the unfinished church to be seen, and a vacant space toward the railway and open country beyond. Thither roamed Aunt Hannah's girls, dutifully prepared to extract such amusement as was possible from the shop windows—a display of lace, worsted-work, some jewelry and clocks, an unlimited quantity of olive-wood trinkets.

"I suppose that we might have invited Mr. Jones to escort and defend us," said Nelly.

Mr. Jones was a youth of seventeen, very solicitous as to the color of his cravat and the question of studs and sleeve-buttons, with whom Nelly had indulged in flirtations on the stairs and in the hotel garden.

"Worse than all," said Fanny, the superior. "We could not be seen walking with a young gentleman alone. It might have done to ask Mrs. Mordaunt, only it is so very tiresome to be constantly told that you know absolutely nothing because you have not lived in Europe for the last five years."

"I wouldn't live in Europe for any thing," said Kate, the energetic. And just then they saw Moses, or rather Moses saw them.

It happened thus: Nelly had paused before the window of a tiny shop, and requested her sisters to examine the contents, when out popped the proprietor, with many bows and smiles, entreating them to enter. The shop was a mere nook be-

tween larger establishments of porcelain and pictures; but no sooner had the girls crossed the threshold than they experienced one of the most subtle enchantments possible to a traveller. The East at once bewitched them. The affability of the merchant was manifest. He was unfeignedly glad to see Aunt Hannah's girls, possibly because the beauties of the harem are not revealed to the street; and any pasha might have bidden high in the slave market for Fanny, in her audacious Cavalier hat, or for Blanche, with the fine classical nose. He was a middle-aged man, with sandy hair and beard, and one greenish-hazel eye that inspected a customer steadily, while its fellow squinted as if endowed with a crooked, sidelong vision, and on his head was a crimson fez.

"Regardez! ecco! see!" he proclaimed, with the drollest mingling of languages, and produced from his pocket a folded paper much worn by admiring inspection. "Me like Americans. You American—yes, yes; all right."

So Fanny, subduing her dimples to gravity, read the paper, while the other girls looked over her shoulder. It was a document calculated to appeal to the interest and *amour propre* of every reader, written by the American minister at Constantinople, and certified to the remarkable integrity of "Far-away Moses" in all conditions of life, after a personal experience of his capacity as broker and dragoman.

"Then you are 'Far-away Moses?'" said Fanny, folding and returning the paper.

"Yes, and my big brother at Constantinople," replied the merchant, with a vagueness suggestive of a whole family of the name dwelling in the Orient, as no doubt they actually do.

"Perhaps you have many big brothers called 'Far-away Moses,'" suggested Kate.

But this pleasantry was either lost on him, or Moses did not deign to understand it. He merely gazed at the questioner with his steady green eye, and the other roved around the walls of the shop as if in search of such tempting wares as should beguile these young flies brought by fate to his net.

"Look here," he said, abruptly, still proud of his fluent English. "Many fabrics—very good—cheap. I come for three months, and the customs cost me thousand francs. I must sell—yes."

The atmosphere was sweet with attar of roses and those mingled spicy odors wafted from strings of beads, carved boxes, and the folds of garments peculiar to the Eastern bazar. The whole interior of the shop was hung with Turkish rugs and carpet, of softly blended hues that appear faded to the unaccustomed observer, and across this background Moses had draped fabrics striped with silver and gold, or crimson and black richly embroidered, and pale blue cloth wrought in arabesque patterns, used for divan and cushion. Such marginal spaces as shelf and show-window rippled and sparkled with filigree trinkets, amber pipes, silver-mounted Dalmatian weapons, and the standards of coffee service in metal foil.

The four maidens were at first spell-bound, their silence soon merging into exclamations of delight, as silken garments, gorgeous slippers, and tissues so delicate that they resembled cobweb, merely held together by the gold thread with which they were worked, were revealed to their gaze. In five minutes each of them was mentally bankrupt, having already converted their several stores of pocket-money to the expectant coffers of Far-away Moses. Kate was determined that the table-cover blooming with such rich flowers should adorn the library at home, Nellie and Blanche were admiring themselves like peacocks in the jacket and cloak with which the artful Moses had insisted on adorning them, while Fanny also wore a coil of amber about her throat, the beads resembling great globes of filtered sunshine, and held thoughtfully in her hand a talismanic chain, to be clasped about the arm, of flat stones inscribed with sentences from the Koran.

"I should suppose you might find your birthday present here," said Kate.

"It would be only too difficult to choose," sighed Fanny.

"Oh, it is like the *Arabian Nights*. The veiled slave will come in at the door presently," said Blanche, in her resplendent jacket.

"Don't you think that I might buy this cloak, Fanny dear? Only fancy what you would pay for such a garment at home!" said Nelly.

Delicious scents, mysterious caskets revealing treasures, a mingling of glorious colors sparkling with golden embroideries, aided Moses in subduing these young creatures. Nay, more—this magician was even able, with the assistance of his crooked and straight eyes, his rapid and impressive gestures, his droll mingling of languages, to enlist their sympathies to the utmost. They became imbued simultaneously with the idea that this forlorn Eastern merchant was thrown on their especial protection, and they promised to interest all their acquaintance in visiting his shop. Possibly they were a little frightened when they saw the pile of articles in which they had invested—the delightful wraps, and gossamer indispensable to their happiness.

"What if pa should fail, and we not have money enough to get home because we had bought all these things!" suggested Kate, dubiously.

"Then we can turn peddlers, and sell them again," retorted Nelly, laughing.

Oh, how rich they felt in possession of these luxuries! How recklessly were they prepared to defy tiresome prudence and economy!

"See here," said Moses, and drew from his breast pocket a battered little case, worn by much friction. He glanced over his shoulder at the adjacent street with habitual caution, and displayed to the girls the contents. A pendant lay in the box, framed in old silver of massive workmanship. It was a sapphire of most translucent beauty and depth, with a goddess engraved on the surface, her draperies shading in two tints, and an urn held above her head. The three younger sisters burst into girlish raptures; Fanny was silent, and on her the crooked eye of Far-away Moses turned with shrewd speculative interest.

II.—AN ANTIQUE GEM.

When dinner was over that evening, Fanny ran up stairs, her cheeks flushed with excitment. She had been summoned by the announcement that a package awaited her, and the package must mean the long-expected treasures from the Eastern bazar.

Baby Tod sat on the top stair, drumming on the baluster with a spoon, with the serene expression of an infant accustomed to having its own way in most things. Children of the Anglo-Saxon race are scattered over the Continent whose tender years are passed in a railway carriage, alternating with flying residences at various hotels and pensions. This tiny pilgrim is seldom permitted the respite of a summer villa or an apartment, as its parents seem to prefer the crowded thoroughfares rather than any by-ways. Baby Tod belonged to the class, and throve astonishingly on an experience derived chiefly from draughty hotel corridors, and the precarious patronage of fellow-travellers. Fanny bestowed a hasty kiss on the curly head—a caress received by the owner with entire unconcern, and no cessation of the melody performed on the baluster with a spoon—and ran to her room, where a compact bundle awaited her.

In the mean while a spark had ignited the combustibles of which the hotel was composed, and a group of expectant persons were gathered in a small salon to see the bargains bought by Aunt Hannah's girls that morning. The hotel was one of those small family houses where the birds of flight seeking winter sunshine congregate, and are sufficiently well acquainted with each other to gossip, and criticise all that transpires. It was impossible to resist the warm partisanship of the four maidens as regarded Far-away Moses, and every body agreed to visit his shop the next morning, while it was even suspected that the scoffer of the house slipped away that very afternoon to indulge in a preliminary investigation. Those accustomed to European life hinted that of course the girls would make a good thing out of it, as their articles must be sold cheaper in proportion to the number of additional customers brought to the bazar. As for Aunt Hannah, she had been wholly subjugated in the general enthusiasm, and made to see that the girls would probably never have such a chance to buy again in their lives. All that was lacking to establish a chain of telegraphic intelligence through the house had been supplied by several tea parties in the ladies' bedrooms, the favorite beverage being brewed over Etnas.

Fanny brought her package into the salon, and Mr. Jones cut the string with his penknife. The lamp shed its rays on the sparkling gold embroideries and gayly colored wraps, but on the top lay a battered little case, which held an antique gem, a sapphire engraved.

"I never bought it!" exclaimed Fanny.

"It must be of great value," said Aunt Hannah.

The jewel passed from hand to hand; the Polish gentleman held it to the light critically: young Mr. Jones regarded its size regretfully, since it would not serve for a cravat pin.

"I must take it back to-morrow," said Fanny, when the girls went to bed.

The gem fascinated her. It lay in her hand like a drop of pure azure, all those superstitions concerning its power revealed by the beauty of its tremulous rays. It was the summer jewel of the ancient Romans, and in the East it was the guardian of youth and innocence. When she raised it, the exquisite little goddess carved on it seemed to step out of the depths of a cool blue cave of polished ice, bearing her urn. Far-away Moses had evidently sent the precious gem to tempt her, or to find another purchaser in the hotel. Fanny was rather proud of his confidence in her integrity.

Next morning the girls led Aunt Hannah and several friends to the Avenue de la Gare. The tiny shop had vanished. They searched far and wide; the earth might have ingulfed the Eastern magician and his wares, so completely was all trace swept away. At last young Mr. Jones—hopeless captive of Nelly in her new jacket—made inquiry. It was Saturday, the Hebrew Sabbath, and a crack of closed shutter really belonged to the bazar. Fanny must keep the sapphire another day. Aunt Hannah locked it up in her trunk.

Sunday morning dawned. The gem was taken from its hiding-place, and the girls proposed restoring it *en route* for the American church. Great events hinge often on trivial ones. Fanny was undecided as to wearing the rose-colored neck-tie or lace cape, and ran across the hall to consult Aunt Hannah. When she returned, the sapphire was gone!

Yes; there was the case on the table, and the antique gem had been wrenched from its place.

To state that Aunt Hannah and the girls did not attend church that morning, that the feminine cheeks paled and the feminine knees smote together, would be saying little. The gem was gone, and no mortal knew what value was placed upon it by Far-away Moses. Instantly that genial person changed to an avenging Justice in their terrified imagination. What would people think? What should they do? How were they to trace the thief? The sapphire had been stolen. Every body knew it, and every body discussed it. The landlord gave his opinion, the servants searched with the subdued sullenness of those who felt themselves to be suspected, and tears began to be shed by the affrighted maidens. At noon a visitor called. Aunt Hannah, with many inward tremors and forced composure, was required to meet a gentleman in a long quaint garment bordered with fur, as if the climate was Nova Zembla instead of Nice—no other than Far-away Moses. The girls smothered their sobs to listen at the key-hole, frozen with horror at the good aunt's peril. What would she say when Moses demanded the sapphire? Aunt Hannah had never told a fib in her life.

But Moses did not inquire for the sapphire, and he had that jocose manner which he no doubt deemed suited to intercourse with a Frank. He merely wished to show the young ladies a rare comb from Japan. The young ladies were not there. Then he would leave it. Oh no, he must not leave it, Aunt Hannah said, somewhat hastily, like the honest woman she was. The merchant departed.

"How I wish pa was here!" said Nelly, disconsolately, and stirred all the chivalry in the soul of young Mr. Jones, who went on his own responsibility to assure Moses that the sapphire was 'all right,'" and succeeded admirably in confirming the worst suspicions instead.

III.—SHYLOCK'S BOND.

Monday and Tuesday were days of doubt, anxiety, and perplexity. The general verdict was to wait before offering to pay for the lost jewel, lest the sagacious merchant should take advantage of the situation and demand an enormous price. Oh, heavens! what might he not ask if he knew it was gone? Aunt Hannah saved her conscience and told no fibs, but it is to be feared that the landlord and young Mr. Jones burdened their own with many white lies to foil Far-away Moses and gain time. The four maidens went about stealthily like criminals, seeing Moses at every corner, or fancying that he barred the hotel door when they were ready to skurry home in guilty haste. Each morning he called to display some new trinket, was evaded, and departed without inquiry as to the jewel. Tuesday evening he became pressing, and left word for Aunt Hannah that he desired a decision on the antique gem.

"Tell him to come back at ten to-morrow," said Aunt Hannah, with the resignation of despair.

The hours would revolve remorselessly, bringing ever nearer the time of the dreaded appointment. To stop all the clocks in town could not avert the re-appearance of much-injured Moses in his furred coat to demand his property. The girls had talked miserably beside the fire until nearly midnight, wondering what he really thought, and what he would do when the truth was known. Perhaps he might insist on more money than they owned in the world, and they were strangers in the land.

"It is just like Shylock and his pound of flesh," said Nelly, despondingly. "Only there is no Portia."

The girls had insisted on supporting Aunt Hannah in the approaching interview, much as they dreaded meeting the crooked eye of Far-away Moses, whom they had hoped to befriend, and had only injured instead. Young Mr. Jones also begged to be admitted to the council, and cherished some vague though manly purpose of defying Moses before the ladies, if he proved belligerent, and subsequently pacifying him with a margin of his own letter of credit if needful.

The clock on the chimney-piece pointed to a quarter of ten, and the group waited in gloomy expectation. Suddenly a loud rap on the door made all hearts leap with apprehension, and a stout gentleman in travelling costume entered. It was papa, intending a pleasant surprise by arriving a month earlier than was expected. If ever a parent was greeted by a rapturous and adoring family, it was on this occasion; the four maidens showed a desire to creep beneath his capacious coat and hide, while Aunt Hannah yielded to a flood of hysterical tears.

Young Mr. Jones prepared to steal away silently, when the door was again opened, so slowly as to attract universal attention, and Baby Tod appeared. The Baby, with the habitual composure of a hotel child, advanced into the room, holding in one little fist an ill-used doll, and in the other, swinging by its silver chain, the sapphire.

Down went the four maidens on their knees, surrounding the Baby, while young Mr. Jones released the jewel from its grasp, and endeavored to coax an explanation of the mystery. But Baby Tod only moved a pair of dimpled shoulders and began to cry, and that was all that any body ever learned as to how it came in the infant's possession.

Fanny's eyes grew quite round, for Moses stood in the door bowing amiably.

There was no time for explanations, but Kate whispered a few words in her father's ear, which seemed to result in his examining the antique gem attentively, and remarking,

"Why, it is nearly Fanny's birthday, eh? Suppose we buy this sapphire?"

No person present had any objection to offer, least of all Far-away Moses, who was presently to be seen departing with as many smiles and bows as when he came.

The gem of youth and innocence triumphed. Fanny became its happy possessor, and to this day the mystery remains unsolved as to its re-appearance just as Shylock would have claimed his bond.

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

THE result of the late experiment of stocking the rivers of New Zealand with California salmon seems to be very satisfactory. A recent communication from the secretary of the Hawke Bay Acclimatization Society to the United States Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, through whose agency the eggs were furnished to the society, gives a very gratifying report in regard to a shipment which reached Napier from San Francisco on the 12th of November last. These eggs are said to have arrived in the best possible condition, owing to the great care in packing them by Mr. LIVINGSTON STONE, superintendent of the United States salmon-hatching station on the M'Cloud River, not more than two per cent. having died on the journey.

In twenty days after the arrival of the eggs at the hatching establishment in New Zealand, ninety-five per cent. of the original consignment had been successfully hatched; and on the 13th of December their development was such that the work of distribution was commenced, the fish being placed in the head waters of the principal rivers, fed from streams rising in the mountains, and having a suitably cool temperature. The Hon. Secretary of the society closes his communication by expressing his confidence in the eminent success of the experiment, returning at the same time the assurance of very high appreciation and hearty thanks for the efforts to supply these ova on the part of the United States Fish Commission.

On February 25, 1877, the city authorities of Vienna inaugurated a novel and remarkably interesting application of pneumatic tubes, for the purpose of maintaining unison and regularity in widely separated time-pieces. The inventor is the Austrian engineer and electrician E. A. MAYRHOFER, who, after vainly trying to solve the problem by means of electricity, finally hit upon the new system. From a central bureau in the city, connected with the Imperial Observatory, these pneumatic tubes extend in all directions, laid alongside the gas-mains, and branching off to the public clocks. By means of a simple apparatus in the latter, the authorities in this bureau are able to exhibit the true astronomical time on the clock dials in all parts of the city, a movement of the hands occurring once a minute. At present only the city clocks have been brought into connection with the new system, but it will be rapidly extended, until it embraces the time-pieces in all the schools, public institutions, and hotels, and in all those private residences where it may be desired.

DR. ERASMUS WILSON, the well-known London specialist in skin diseases, has made a contract with a firm of engineers to transport Cleopatra's Needle from Egypt to the Thames Embankment. This monolith, as is well known, was presented to the English government many years ago, but not removed, in consequence of the supposed difficulties in the way. The contract price for the removal is ten thousand pounds sterling, to be paid only when the work is completed.

An advance has lately been made in the way of fog-signals, in the introduction of explosive gun-cotton rockets, to be used both on board ships and at light-houses. These rockets, when exploded at the sea-level, are said to be capable of being heard more than two and a half miles, but when they burst at an altitude of 900 yards, the report is heard like a thunder-peal for a distance of ten miles.

Professor TYNDALL is at present conducting experiments with these rockets in behalf of the Trinity Board.

According to a recent Chinese authority, the cause of the superiority of the British in scientific progress is to be accounted for by the use of Chinese eyes and Chinese brains. It is claimed that the English scientists make an extract from the eyes of Chinese who have become Christians, which is applied to their own eyes, and they are thus enabled to understand astronomy and perceive the mineral wealth of the earth. The brains of Chinese girls have been equally utilized; these, in combination with other medicines, having been made into pills, and afterward subjected to incantations, are ready for use. No explanation, however, has been given why the Chinese eyes and brains in the heads of their legitimate possessors can not be made equally useful.

The British government continues its liberal patronage of scientific investigation. An estimate of £4000 has been made for the "working out" of the collections obtained by the *Challenger* expedition, and there is little doubt but that the amount in question will be appropriated. It has also promised to give £80,000 toward the new building for the University of Edinburgh, with an understanding that a like amount is to be raised by subscription.

In a recent communication to the Royal Geographical Society of London by Mr. E. D. YOUNG, R.N., it was asserted that the only obstacle to navigation between the ocean and Lake Nyassa was the falls of the Shiré.

The cotton-growing world is much interested at present in the discovery of a new species of cotton-plant in Egypt, which promises to effect a revolution in this industry. According to the statements in regard to it, one ardeb (270 pounds) of ordinary cotton seed will sow eight acres of land, and will produce 4000 pounds of cotton in the seed. The same quantity of seed of the new plant will sow about the same breadth of land, but the yield in cotton is claimed to be from two to five times the amount. Thus, at present, each ardeb of 270 pounds returns in value £96 in cotton, while the new plant returns a value of £240.

The new cotton is said to be of good appearance, and quite equal in quality to ordinary Egyptian cotton. It grows to the height of ten feet, has a straight and vertical stem without branches, and but few leaves, and is thickly studded with pods, as many as seventy having been counted on a single plant. The absence of branches permits the setting of the plants of the new variety much closer than the old, a distance of half a yard apart being sufficient, instead of a yard.

The origin of the plant is not known, although it is maintained by some to have been brought from Equatorial Africa. The seed at present brings from $125 to $150 per ardeb, instead of $5 for the common kind.

One hypothesis in regard to the origin of marsh malaria refers this to the development of certain microscopical growths, which are supposed, by their dissemination, to effect a lodgment in the human system, and there to set in motion organic changes, producing the various phenomena of disease.

Many years ago, Dr. J. H. SALISBURY, then a resident of Cleveland, Ohio, presented this view, which has since had quite a number of followers. The subject appears to be still further elucidated by recent researches in Rome by Messrs. LANZI and TERRIGI, who have been studying the microscopical fauna of the Roman marshes. They find, in the cells of the algæ collected there, certain dark granules penetrating into the endochrome, or into the chlorophyll of algæ having

this substance. These become more and more developed with the death and decay of the algæ, and finally turn black, and either cause or accompany a condition of putrefaction which results in their extensive dissemination.

According to the authors mentioned, the marshes of the Campagna in the winter season develop large masses of this alga, which become decomposed by the drying up of the ground, afterward producing phanerogamous land plants. Toward autumn the marshy portions of the undried land exhibit a corrupting layer of slime, abounding in the dark granules referred to, and various animal infusoria. These are found in abundance in the atmospheric dust of the Campagna, and are largely developed from it by cultivation.

The pigment granules found in the liver and spleen of individuals suffering from malaria have similar properties to those of the ferment granules in question, and they can be developed quite similarly. TERRIGI has found that the best method of preventing the decay and development of these granules is in the application of chloride of lime, of lime, or of chloral. A filtering of the atmosphere several hundred feet above the surface of the earth revealed the presence of these bodies, which also appeared in the liver and spleen of guinea-pigs that had been kept for some time at the level of the marsh.

The nest-building peculiarities of certain fishes have of late years excited much attention, a very great diversity existing in different forms. It is also well known that some mammals construct nests with great ingenuity. Among these, the aye-aye or cheiromys of Madagascar, a very remarkable animal, has been found to exhibit the same peculiarity. Its nest is globular, of enormous size, and placed with much art in the fork of the large branches of a tree. The outer surface is formed by great leaves, which constitute an impermeable covering. The opening is narrow, and placed on the side, and in this the female, with her young, takes her residence. In a related group, the lemuridæ, the higher members carry their young attached to the back or breast; the lower forms, however, do not transport their young, but deposit them either in hollow trees or in artificial nests.

The Marquis de Compiègne, the well-known African explorer, was killed, on the 22d of February last, in a duel with a German commercial clerk at Cairo. The marquis was only thirty years of age, and had obtained his chief celebrity in connection with an important journey made in company with M. MARCHE, in 1873-74, along the Ogowé River, in West Africa. He was the author of numerous articles published in the Bulletins of the Geographical Society of Paris and other journals, and also of a work, in two volumes, published in 1875, entitled *L'Afrique Equatoriale*. He had been for some time before his death the secretary of the Geographical Society of Cairo, a semi-official institution under the patronage of the Egyptian government.

Dr. PETERS, the discoverer of the asteroids *Gerda* (122) and *Urda* (167), calls attention to a series of curious coincidences in their orbits. Their nodes, inclinations, and semi-axes major are almost exactly the same. The eccentricity of *Urda* is much greater; but this element is somewhat doubtful, as only eighteen days' observations were obtained. "It appears, therefore," says Dr. PETERS, "that possibly five elements of the orbit of *Gerda* may be identical with those of *Urda*. The sixth element, the orbit longitude, which is different, shows them to be different planets; and further, *Gerda* was observed several times at Berlin during the last opposition, from STOCKWELL'S elements."

The conclusion that there are two minor planets moving in the same plane and with the same periodic time is of great interest, and it is to be hoped that *Urda* will be observed in the next opposition, in January, 1878.

It is claimed that the most extensive line of railway in the world is that of the Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean Company. At the close of 1875 the line in operation comprised 3195 miles, and 1228¾ miles more are being built, or concessions therefor have been obtained. Thus, when complete, the system will embrace 4423¾ miles, and the directors are contemplating a still further extension.

Mr. TARDIEU has made known to the French Academy of Sciences a new form of marine sounding apparatus. This consists of a spherical envelope of caoutchouc, a few centimeters thick, which communicates with an iron reservoir by means of a slender tube fitted with a valve. The envelope is filled with mercury, and any increase of external pressure causes the mercury, in quantity proportioned to the pressure, to pass into the iron reservoir, from which it can not return. The weight of the mercury found in the reservoir indicates the amount of pressure to which it has been subjected, and therefore the depth to which it has descended.

The recently published report of the Quincy Copper Mine gives some interesting statistical details. It appears that in 1876, 3,815,850 pounds of copper were shipped, against 3,409,395 pounds in 1875. The yield per cent. was 80¼, against 82 last year. The average force employed in the operations of the company was 510 men in 1875, against 504 in 1876, of whom 271 (same as last year) were miners. The average wages of the miners per man was $47 13.

In some recent investigations upon the question of the direction of the excitation of the nerves of sensibility, by Mr. BERT, a curious experiment was tried by him in regard to grafting the tail of a rat. He removed a portion of the cuticle from the tip of the tail, and inserted this in an incision in the skin of the back, and on keeping the two surfaces in apposition for a considerable time they grew together, the result being a rat with a decided handle to his tail. The object was to determine whether sensation could be transmitted in a direction opposite to its normal course. This problem was solved by cutting the arc of the tail in two, and pinching the end of the terminal portion, when the rat immediately raised a cry expressive of pain, and fled. In a few days, however, this sensibility ceased by alteration of the nerves; but the sensibility of the stump end of the tail continued without change.

CARITA.

BY MRS. OLIPHANT,

AUTHOR OF "THE CHRONICLES OF CARLINGFORD," "INNOCENT," "SQUIRE ARDEN," "THE PERPETUAL CURATE," "OMBRA," ETC., ETC.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

LITTLE EMMY'S VISITORS.

OSWALD had found his particular pursuit interrupted by his father's death. He could not go that day, which happened to be the hospital day, to meet Agnes at the gate; indeed, for once, his own inclinations were, for the moment, driven out of his head; and, in the many things there were to think of, from hat-bands upward, he forgot that this was the day on which alone he could secure a little conversation with the object of his thoughts. When the recollection flashed upon him in the evening, he was more disturbed than was at all usual to his light-hearted nature. What would she think of him? That he had deserted her, after compromising her—an idea equally injurious to his pride and to his affection; for he had so much real feeling about Agnes that he was not self-confident where she was concerned, and shrank from the idea of appearing in an unfavorable light. Ordinarily, Oswald did not suppose that any one was likely to look at him in an unfavorable light. And then there was the fear which sprang up hastily within him that this day which he had missed might be the last hospital day. Little Emmy had been gradually getting better, and when she was discharged, what means would he have of seeing Agnes? This thought took away all the pleasure from his cigar, and made him pace backward and forward in his room, in all the impatience of impotence, ready to upbraid his father with dying at such an inconvenient moment. Yesterday would not have mattered, or to-morrow—but to-day! How often, Oswald reflected, it happens like this in human affairs. Given an unoccupied day, when any thing might occur without disturbing your arrangements—when, indeed, you have no engagements, and are perfectly free and at the command of fate—nothing, even under the most favorable circumstances, happens; but let it be a moment when something very urgent is on your hands, when you have an opportunity that may never occur again, and immediately earth and heaven conspire to fill it with accidents, and to prevent its necessary use. At that hour, however, nothing could be done. It was nearly midnight, and the House, with all its swarms of children and kindly attendants, must be wrapped in the sleep of the innocent. Would Agnes, he asked himself, share that sleep, or would any troubled thoughts be in her mind touching the stranger who had so sought her society, and who had exposed her to reproof, and then left her to bear it as she might? This, it is to be feared, drove out of Oswald's mind any feeling he might have had for his father. In any case, such feeling would have been short-lived. He had no visionary compunctions, such as Edward had, though it was Oswald, not Edward, who was supposed to be the poetical one of the brothers; but then Edward was not "in love," at least not in Oswald's way.

A week had to elapse before the day on which he could hope to see Agnes again, and this contrariety made him more earnest in his determination to let nothing stand in his way a second time. He was so eager, indeed, that he neglected what would otherwise have been so important in his eyes—the arrival of the mail, which brought definite information as to Mr. Meredith's property, and must settle what his own prospects were to be.

No man could give a warmer evidence of his love than this, he felt within himself as he took his way toward the hospital. During the intervening week he had seen the little teacher almost daily, accompanying the procession of school-girls, and she had, he thought, been conscious that he was there, though she would not look at him. Naturally, Oswald made all he could of his deep hat-band, his black gloves, and even the black border of his handkerchief, as he crossed the line; and once he felt that Agnes perceived these indications of woe in a quick glance she gave at him, though she avoided his eyes. This, then, was a point in his favor—if only little Emmy was still at the hospital. This time he was more bold than usual, and asked to be admitted to see the child, explaining who he was, and what was his connection with the accident. In this respect he took upon himself more than was necessary, blaming himself for being the cause of it; and at length got admittance, his mourning naturally standing him in stead with all the officials. Little Emmy had been by this time transported into the convalescent ward, and was lying on a sofa there, very bright-eyed and pale, looking eagerly, as Oswald saw, with a leap of his heart, for some visitor. When she perceived him, a cloud of disappointment passed over her little face, then a glance of surprise and recognition, then the swift rising color of weakness.

"Do you know me?" said Oswald, taking the chair the nurse offered him.

"Oh yes!" cried the child, with a mixture of awe and delight. No further preliminaries were necessary.

He listened, with patience, to an account of all the stages of her recovery, and delicately introduced his own inquiries. The ladies at the House had been very kind to her, had they not? They had come to see her?

"Oh yes, Sir," cried little Emmy. "Miss Burchell came every week, and Sister Mary Jane has been twice. Miss Burchell is the kindest of all. I thought she was coming to-day. Oh, isn't she coming to-day?" the child added, after a pause, looking at him with rising tears. "Did she send you instead, please?" and though Oswald was so grand a gentleman, and his inquiries filled her with pride, yet his possible substitution for her more beloved visitor made Emmy ready to cry. Oswald did not like to be thus thrust into a secondary place, even with a child. A momentary irritation arose in his mind; then he laughed and forgave Emmy, remembering who it was that she preferred to him.

"Don't be afraid," he said; "I have not come instead of Miss—did you say Burchell? Is she one of the Sisters?" he asked, hypocritically. "I thought you called them by their Christian names."

"Oh, Sir, Miss Burchell is not a Sister. She is the teacher. I am in the third division," said the child, with pride; "and she teaches us. She is a lady—not like Miss Davies in the infant school, you know; but a real, real lady. And all the Sisters are ladies. It is for goodness they take care of us, and not because they are obliged. Such a trouble as they take!" said little Emmy, with the *naïve* surprise of her class, "and for nothing at all! And Miss Burchell is the kindest of them all."

"She has come to see you very often?"

"Oh, Sir, every open day! and she told me that—that—you had come to ask for me. She said it was so good and kind. She said, Sir, as you were a very kind gentleman, and took an interest in poor children—especially orphans like me."

"Yes; I take a great interest in you, my poor little Emmy," said Oswald, blushing with pleasure. "I think you ought to have change of air after your long illness. Is there not a place where the children at the House go to when they have been ill?"

"Oh," cried the little girl, with eyes as round as her exclamation, "Nelly Brown went to Margate after the fever. She used to tell us about the sands and the shells, and riding on donkeys; but Nelly had a kind lady who took an interest in her," said Emmy, her countenance falling, "and paid for her. There are such a many orphans, Sir," she added, with a wistful look at him. "Such a many! They would do more for us, if there wasn't such a many of us, Sister Mary Jane says."

A certain half-aggrieved and serious wonder was in the child's eyes. Why there should be so many orphans puzzled little Emmy; and she felt that it was a special grievance to her, as one of them, debarred from the privileges which a smaller number might have shared.

"And you have a kind gentleman, Emmy," said Oswald. "I hope it comes to the same thing. That is what I came to talk to you about—"

"Ah, there she is!" said little Emmy, growing red with delight.

Oswald got up precipitately from his chair. What would she say to find him here already installed before her? She came up, light-footed, in her nun's dress; her face looked doubly sweet, or so, at least, her young lover thought, in the close circle of the poke-bonnet, to meet the rapture in the child's eyes.

Agnes had no thought that Oswald was likely to penetrate here; therefore she did not see him or think of him as she came up to the child, and he was a witness of the clinging of the little orphan's arms, the tender sweetness of the salutation. Agnes could not have said any thing more homely than the "How have you been, dear?" but it sounded like the very softest utterance of loving-kindness—maternal, dove-like murmuring, tender and caressing—to Oswald's ear.

"Oh, I am well—almost well; and here is the kind gentleman come to see me!" cried little Emmy.

Agnes turned quickly, and looked at him. She thought it was the surgeon, who was young too, and had shown an almost unprofessional eagerness to explain to her all the peculiarities of this interesting case. When she saw who it really was, she turned crimson, gave him a look which was half reproach and half satisfaction, and went away to the other side of the sofa, keeping the little patient between them. This suited both parties very well; for while Agnes felt it at once a demonstration of displeasure and flight out of a dangerous vicinity, it brought her face to face with him, and gave him a favorable point of view for all her changes of countenance. And who could object to his visit here, which charity—only charity—could have brought about? By little Emmy's sofa, Oswald felt brave enough to defy all the Sisters in the world.

"I came to inquire into Emmy's prospects of convalescence," said Oswald, insinuatingly; "and she tells me there is some place in Margate where children are sent to from the House. If the Sisters will let me pay for the child—she wants sea breezes, I think," and he looked at her in a serious, parental way, "before she can be fit for work again."

"Oh, I think they will be very glad," said Agnes, somewhat breathless. She did not want him to know that she had as much as remarked his absence; and yet, in spite of herself, there was a slight tone of coldness and offense in her voice.

"May I ask you to arrange it for me? I don't know when she will be able to be moved; but when she is. Summer is coming on, and the weather is quite genial already." (The weather *is* quite genial generally, one time or other, in April, to take the unwary in.)

"Oh yes," said Agnes again, assenting out of sheer timidity and embarrassment. Then she said, hesitating a little, "Perhaps it would be better to send word to the Sister Superior yourself."

"Is it necessary? I have been in great trouble lately, which is why I could not ask for poor Emmy last week," he said; and he so managed as that the deep hat-band should catch the eye of Agnes. Her face softened at once, as he saw, and her eyes, after a momentary glance at the hat-band, returned inquiring and kind, not furtive or offended, to his face.

"I am very sorry," she said, looking again at the hat, and in an eager, half-apologetic tone. "I will speak of it, if you wish. It is very kind of you to think of her—very kind."

"Kind! How can I be sufficiently grateful to Emmy?" he said, low and quickly, in a tone which the child could not hear; and then he took the little girl's thin, small hand into his, and folded the fingers on a gold coin.

"This is to hire donkeys on the sands, Emmy," he said. "But mind, you must tell me all about it when you come back."

"Oh, Sir! Oh, Miss Burchell! look what he has given me!" said the child, in ecstasy. But Oswald knew how to beat a retreat gracefully. He gave a little squeeze to Emmy's fist, keeping it closed over the sovereign, and, bowing to Agnes, went away.

Was that the last of him? Better, far better, that it should be the last of him, poor Agnes felt, as her heart contracted, in spite of herself, at his withdrawal; but the surprise, and that pang of disappointment, which she would have gone to the stake rather than acknowledge, made her incapable of speech for the moment. It is very wicked and wrong to speak to a gentleman to whom you have never been introduced; but then, when that gentleman has a legitimate opportunity of making a little acquaintance in a natural way, how strange, and rather injurious, that he should not take advantage of it! This failure of all necessity for resistance at the moment when she was buckling on her best armor to resist, gave an extraordinary twist to Agnes Burchell's heart. It almost would have brought the tears to her eyes, had not she started in instant self-despair, though she would not have shed such tears for all the treasures of the world.

"Oh, look what he has given me!" cried little Emmy. "A sovereign, a whole sovereign—all to myself!"

"He is—very kind," said Agnes, stiffly, and she was restrained even in her intercourse with Emmy, not saying half so much to her as she did on ordinary occasions; which was wrong; for, in fact, Emmy could not justly bear blame for any thing committed, neither for his coming nor his going away. The child was quite cast down by Miss Burchell's coldness. She began to inquire if Agnes was ill, if she was tired, if she thought the Sisters would object to let her go to Margate, thus plainly showing that she perceived her visitor's abstraction, which was, of all things in the world, the last thing which Agnes wished to be remarked. And poor Agnes could not conceal how worried she was by these questions; she could not account for the discouragement, the sickness of heart, that had come over her. She was tired all at once—overcome by the heat or the cold; which was it?

"It is the spring, miss," said the nurse.

And she was very willing to allow that it must be the spring. "I will send you word as soon as I have spoken to the Sister," she said, kissing little Emmy as she went away; "and forgive me, dear—for I have a headache. I have not been able to talk to you to-day."

"Oh, have you a headache?" cried poor little Emmy, ready to cry for sympathy. What perverse things hearts are when they are young! Agnes walked away through the wards the emblem of peaceful quiet, in her black bonnet, her soft face breathing serenity and ease, as one sufferer and another thought as she passed, but under that conventual drapery a hundred thoughts rustling and stinging, so that the girl was afraid lest they should be heard. Oh, she was glad that he was gone! Glad to be spared the struggle and the necessity for telling him that he must haunt her steps no more. Glad to be let alone, to do her work in peace—her work, that was what she lived for, not absurd romances which she was ashamed even to dream of. Her mind was brimful and running over with these thoughts. It was like carrying a hive full of bees or a cage full of birds through the place, to walk through it like this, her heart beating, and so many voices whispering in her ears. But suddenly, all at once, as she came out of the great doors, they all hushed in a moment. Her heart stopped (she thought); her thoughts fled like frightened children. She was stilled. Why? It was all for no better reason than that Oswald Meredith was visible at the gate, in his black clothes, looking (the hospital nurses thought) like an interesting young widower, bereaved and pensive, yet not inconsolable. He had put on a look in conformity with his hat-band, and stood there waiting for her as she came out, claiming her sympathy. Agnes grew still in a moment, the tumult and the commotion ceasing in her mind as by magic. She tried to look as if she did not see him, and then to pass him when she got out beyond the gate; but he stepped forward quickly into her path.

"May I ask if you will speak for me about little Emmy?" he said. "The child looks weak and rather excitable. I should like, if the authorities will permit me, to pay her expenses to the sea."

"Oh yes, they will permit you," said Agnes, smiling in spite of all her terrors. "You are very kind. I will speak—if you wish it."

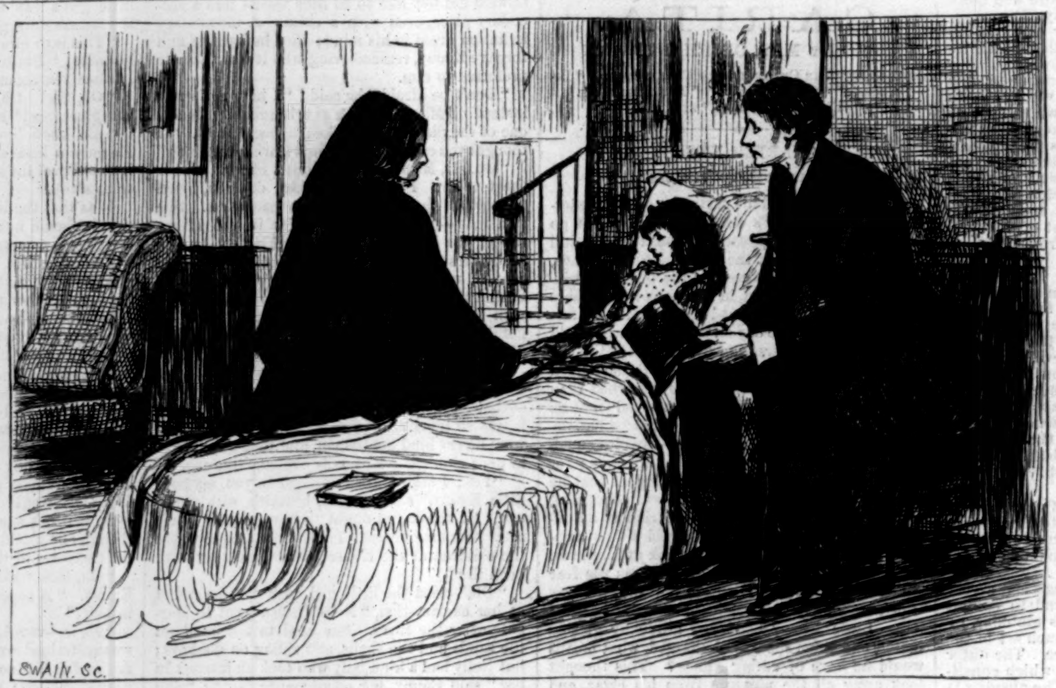
"And write to me," said Oswald, eagerly. "It will be necessary to write to me to let me know."

But Agnes demurred to this easy settlement of the matter. "Sister Mary Jane will write. She manages these things herself. But she will be pleased. Good-morning," she said, making an attempt to quicken her steps.

"I am going this way," said Oswald. "I could not come last week. We had bad news."

She looked up at him, half alarmed, half sympathetic. She was sorry, very sorry, that he should suffer. It was not possible (she thought) to be like the priest and the Levite, pass on on the other side, and pretend to care nothing for one's neighbor. But then she ought to tell him to go away. So Agnes compounded with her conscience by uttering nothing; all she did was to look up at him with tender brown eyes, so full of pity and interest that words would have been vain to express all they were able to say.

"My father is dead in India," said Oswald. "You may fancy how hard it is upon us to hear of it without any of the details, without knowing who was with him, or if he was properly cared for. I have not had time for any thing since but to at-


"'I HAVE BEEN IN GREAT TROUBLE LATELY,' SAID HE."

tend upon my mother, and see to what had to be done."

He felt that this was a quite correct description; for had he not sacrificed the last hospital day to the shock of the news, if not to the service of his mother? and there had been things to do—hat-bands, etc.—which had kept him occupied.

"I am very sorry," said Agnes, with downcast eyes.

"You who are so tender and sympathetic, I knew you would feel for—my mother," said Oswald; upon which name the girl looked up at him again. To feel for his mother—surely there could not be any thing more natural, more right, than this.

"You would like my mother—every one does. It is amusing the way in which people run after her. Not that there is any room for amusement in our mournful house at present," said Oswald, correcting himself. "This is the first day the sun has seemed to shine or the skies to be blue since I saw you last."

"I am very sorry," said Agnes again; and then, after a pause, she added, nervously, "It is not that I think any thing; and, oh, I hope you will not be vexed now that you are in trouble—but you must not come with me. The Sister thinks it is not right, and neither do I."

"Not right!" said Oswald, with an ingenuous look of surprise.

Agnes was driven to her wits' end. "I do not want to seem absurd," she said, trembling, "and, indeed, there is no need for explanation. Please, you must not wait for me at the hospital, or walk back with me any more."

"Alas! have we not been planning to send little Emmy away? That means that I shall not have the chance, and that the brightest chapter in my life is almost over. Must it be over? You don't know what it has been to me. You have made me think as I never thought before. Will you abandon me now, just when I feel on the threshold of something better?"

"You must not talk so," said Agnes, roused to something like anger. "You know very well that, meeting me as you have done, it is wrong; it is not the part of a gentleman to talk so."

"Is it not the part of a gentleman to admire, to reverence—to love?" Oswald said the last words almost under his breath, and yet she heard them, notwithstanding the noises in the street.

"Mr. Meredith!" She gave him an indignant look, but it ended in a blush, which ran, like a warm suffusion, all over her, and checked further words on her lips.

"I know your name, too," he said. "And it is not love only, but reverence, that is in my heart. Oh, Agnes! don't turn me away! May not my mother come, when she is well enough to go any where, and plead my cause? She might speak if I may not."

"Oh, go away, please; go away," said Agnes, in distress. "We are almost at the House again."

"And why should not we be at the House, if you will let me hope?" cried Oswald. "I don't want to skulk away! Yes, I will go and hide myself somewhere if you will not hear me. I shall not care what becomes of me. But, Agnes—"

"Oh, Mr. Meredith! Go, please. I can not think it is right. I—don't understand you. I ought not to listen to you—in this dress; and I have only begun the work."

"There are other kinds of work. There is the natural work. Is not a wife better than a Sister?"

Agnes lighted up with the sudden flash which was characteristic of her. She raised her eyes to him glowing with indignant fire, her face suffused with color. "Better?" she said; "better to live for one's self and one other than for the poor and the helpless and the miserable? Oh! do you know what you say? You are a tempter; you are not a true Christian! Better? when there are so many who are wretched and friendless in the world, with no one to care whether they live or die? Do you think a woman does better who tries to make *you* happy than one who gives herself up for *them?*"

In the heat of this sudden burst of controversial eloquence, she turned aside into another street, which led out of the way of the House. Nothing else would have tempted her to such a curious breach of decorum; but the argument did, which filled her with indignant fervor. She did it only half consciously, by impulse, burning to know what he would answer, what plea he could bring up against her. But here Oswald's cleverness failed him. He was not wise enough to see that a little argument would have led her on to any self-committal. He answered softly, with mistaken submission.

"I will retract. I will say any thing you please. No, not better; only happier. You would make me the most blessed of men; and what can you do for the poor? So little; every body says so little. But for me there would be no limit to what you could do. I have the most need of conversion. Ah! let your mission be me!"

Agnes started and came to herself. She looked round her, alarmed and scared, when she knew, yet only half knew, that she had left the direct road. "I have taken the wrong turn," she said, with confusion. "Mr. Meredith, let us forget that we have ever met. How could I turn back, having just put my hand to the plough? Oh, it is very weak and wicked of me, but I do not want the Sister to see you. She will think— But you have been kind, and I will say good-by here."

"Do you want to say good-by? Why should we forget we have ever met? Tell me to forget that I am born!"

"Oh, no, no! it is not like that. Mr. Meredith, we have only known each other four or five—a few weeks."

"Six—I have kept closer count than you."

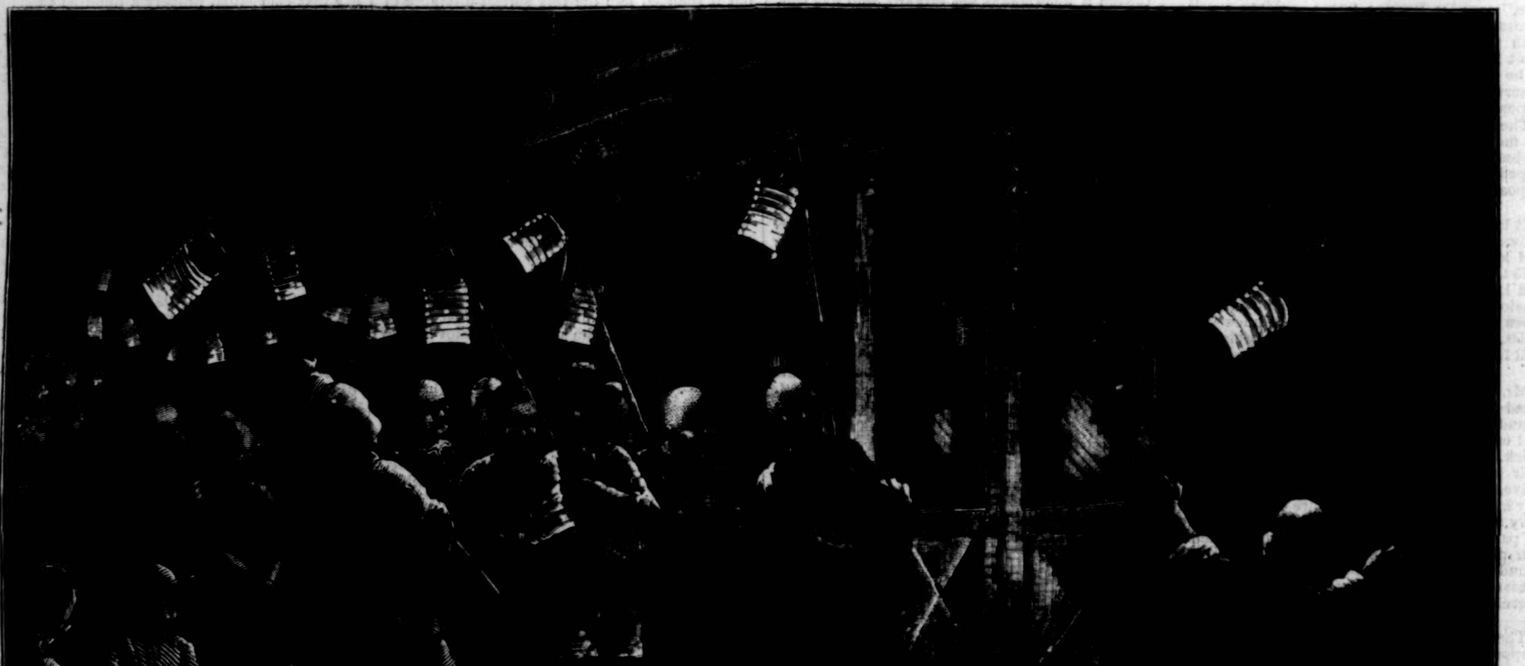
"And what does that matter in a life?" said Agnes, looking up at him with a courageous smile. "Nothing! no more than a moment. We have not done any harm," she added, collecting all her strength. "We have not neglected our work nor wasted our time. And we never meant any thing. It was all an accident. Mr. Meredith, good-by. I shall pray that you may be happy."

"Ah! that is like what the world says of saints," he said, sharply. "You make me wretched, and then pray that I may be happy."

"Oh, no, no!" she cried, the tears coming to her eyes. "How can I have made you wretched? It was only an accident. It has been only a moment. You will not refuse to say good-by."

Foolish Agnes! she had nothing to do but to leave him, having said her say. But, instead of this, she argued, bent upon making a logical conclusion to which he should consent, convinced, though against his will. On the whole, she preferred that it should be against his will, but convinced she had determined that he must be. They walked away softly through the little street into the sunset, which sank lower every moment, shedding a glory of slant light upon the two young figures so sombre in garb, so radiant in life. Where they were going they did not know, nor how the charmed moments were passing. Every shade of the coming evening lay behind them, but all the glory of the rose tints and glowing purple, the daffodil skies and gates of pearl, before.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]


CHINESE LANTERN FEAST.—[See Page 334.]

YOUNG LIONS IN CENTRAL PARK.—Drawn by Schell and Hogan.—[See Page 334.]

A JAR OF HONEY.

THERE is a hive in my garden,
 Such as one sometimes sees
In dear old country places
 Close by the orchard trees—
A house full of little people,
 Swarming with busy bees:
You may have seen them often,
 But never any like these.

There are flowers in my garden,
 That are good enough for me,
But not for these nice small folk,
 Though once they used to be;
So they have found out others,
 To which at will they flee;
They are sometimes so long absent
 I think they cross the sea.

They all come back to my garden,
 Wherever they have been—
Back to my hive in my garden,
 And its mysterious queen.
Hark! you can hear them singing,
 At work in the cells unseen:
They are singing, and making honey—
 You don't know what I mean?

If you knew more of poets,
 And how their poems grew,
You would understand my bee-hive,
 And its swarm of fancies too:
How they fly to other men's gardens,
 And steal as other men's do—
They have stolen this jar of honey,
 Which, Lady, I offer you.

R. H. STODDARD.

YOUNG LIONS, CENTRAL PARK.

ON page 333 we give an interesting family group—a matronly lioness and two cubs about two months old. The originals are to be seen in Central Park. Many of the animals that winter in the Central Park menagerie belong to travelling shows that disband at the approach of the cold season. The city pays the expense of care and feeding, and thus obtains a fine collection at a comparatively trifling cost. The lioness in our picture belongs to this class. Her family excites great interest, and attracts crowds of spectators. She is watchful and wide-awake, and fiercely repels every attempt to be familiar with her offspring. The cubs, brother and sister, have an innocent look, and though disposed to be playful, are still rather slow and clumsy in their motions.

CHINESE LANTERN FEAST.

ON page 332 we give a picture of a lantern procession of Chinese children in San Francisco. The festival occurs early in spring, and belongs exclusively to the boys and girls, who are allowed their own way in every thing on this special occasion. In the evening they form in line and parade through the streets, carrying lanterns and illuminated paper boxes. The procession is headed by a boy, who, as he marches along, repeats short sentences, which the others repeat in chorus. The festival is generally kept up till late in the night.

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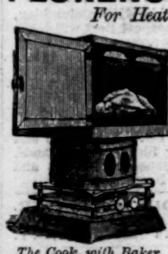
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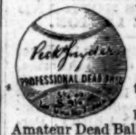

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"IMPERIAL" FESTIVITIES IN BURMAH.

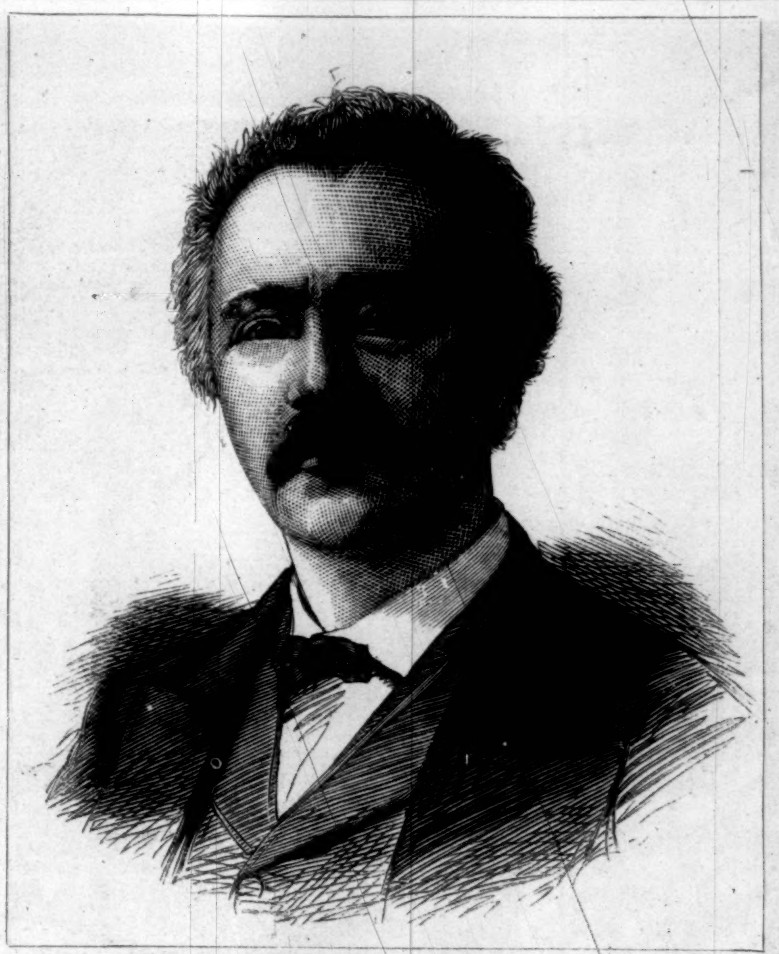
Though unable to compete in expenditure with more wealthy provinces of the British Indian Empire in celebrating the assumption of the Imperial title by her Majesty Queen Victoria, the inhabitants of British Burmah were nowise behind the most loyal of her subjects in their alacrity and personal efforts to make this event a telling success. This was most noticeable in the various large buildings, of an attractive though temporary character, erected for the exhibition (gratis) of the dramatic acting, dancing, singing, and other national performances which are peculiar to the country. One remarkable feature in all celebrations of this description in Burmah, as compared with India generally, is that while in Hindostan all public performers are professional, and none of the better classes of society will exhibit themselves in public, the Burmese women are accustomed, upon state occasions like this, or in connection with religious ceremonies, to take part in public amateur performances. Upon these occasions none but respectable girls are admitted, among whom are to be found the daughters of the most wealthy and important of the native residents. In the single town of Moulmein not fewer than six or seven hundred of such young ladies had undergone a troublesome and laborious training for their performances on "Proclamation-day."

Our engravings on page 340, illustrative of this ceremonial, represent, first, one of the different pavilions built for the purposes of the festival, where several companies of performers are seen ranged outside; secondly, the Burmese band, which is always in attendance on such occasions.

ELEUSIS.

This place, celebrated in connection with the ancient religious mysteries of Greece, is distant only a drive of an hour and a half from Athens. The present road is supposed to go almost upon the same line as the old Sacred Way. After leaving the pass of Daphne, the traces of this Sacred Way can be seen where it has been cut along upon the solid rock, close to the sea, and parallel to the present road. The bay of Eleusis appears to be of a crescent form, into the hollow of which the Thriasian Plain projects. This is a large and fertile tract, the cultivation of which may have given origin to the rites of Ceres. The bit of ground between Eleusis and the sea, a space of about half a mile, is the soil where, according to tradition, corn was first cultivated. At the present day this cultivation is still going on, and men and women may be seen at work, the men ploughing with the primitive implement, made of wood, scarcely differing from the plough to be seen all over the East.

A ridge of rock extends into the plain from the west, terminating opposite the middle of the bay, and at this point the town stands. It is a small and unimportant village. The large temple, noted in former times as one of the largest in Greece, no longer exists; and almost the whole of the present village would require to be removed to find its foundation. There is a small Greek chapel, with a detached belfry, on the top of the rock seen in the illustration, where was formerly the Acropolis. Beneath that point the ground is strewn about with large fragments of marble. This was the propylæum leading to the temple. Portions of the old walls of the town can be seen among the houses of the village. The tower shown in the sketch, on an elevation of the ridge to the west, belongs to the Byzantine period.



DR. SCHLIEMANN, THE EXPLORER OF TROY AND MYCENÆ.

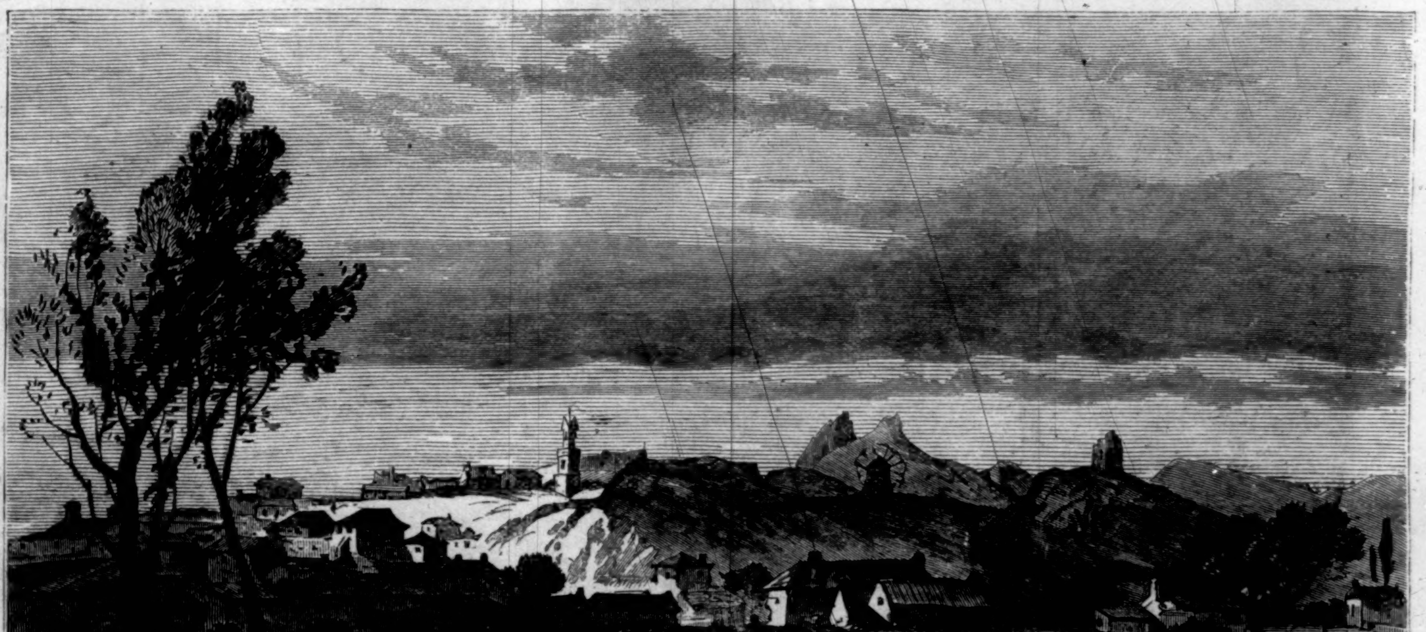
SCHLIEMANN'S DISCOVERIES IN MYCENÆ.

The famous Acropolis of Mycenæ, situated in the northeastern part of Argolis, in the Greek peninsula, is built on an isolated rock which fits, not unlike a wedge, into a valley between two prominent hills. The northern one is Iretus, now known as Mount Agios Elias, and the other one as Sara. The rocky scarp of the citadel toward the last-named hill is so precipitous that no attack would have been likely on that side. Still there are remains of huge walls now standing in places where the cliff is less perpendicular. On the other side, which was easier of approach, a long wall of the most enduring masonry extended the whole length. This terminated at one end where the rocky point of the wedge looked to the east up the valley, and at the other where the wall turned to the southeast, forming one side of the approach to the famous Lion Gateway, thus named from the figures over the doorway of two lions, which act as supports on each side of a pillar. From this gateway the wall is again continued pretty nearly southwest for a short distance, when it turns with an angle to the southeast, in which direction it runs on again until it reaches the rocky gorge just described. There are inner walls of masonry within this, inclosing the higher ground of the Acropolis. Mycenæ was destroyed by the inhabitants of Argos about 468 B.C., and it is a wonder that any of its walls should remain standing at the present day; but the massive masonry of the period has in this long struggle with time given evidence of its durability. Some parts of the walls are still in as good condition as when first erected.

In his recent excavations Dr. Schliemann, whose discoveries among the ruins of ancient Greece have of late attracted so much attention, made a number of experimental borings or shafts all over the Acropolis, but ultimately decided to carry out his operations at the southwest corner, between the Lion Gateway and the wall. This spot is the one represented in our double-page engraving, which was drawn subsequent to the excavations, and thus gives a correct idea of the scene as it appears at the present moment. The view is taken from the top of the old wall south of the great gate, and at the base of one of the two hills. The Acropolis of Argos is at its southern extremity; beyond is the Gulf of Argos; and the high chain of mountains, their summits covered with snow at this season, separating it from Arcadia and Laconia, forms the extreme distance of the picture. The Lion Gateway can now be entered, and it forms a fitting approach to the scene of Dr. Schliemann's discoveries. By entering at this point, the visitor comes upon the spot as did those who were living when Mycenæ was the chief city of Greece, and when this spot must have been sacred and celebrated, from the illustrious dead who were interred there with all the solemnity of the ancient Greek ritual.

On passing the large blocks of the ancient portal, and turning to the right, the first things to attract the eye are the curious old walls laid bare by the recent excavations. As the inclosures formed by these remains present no indications of either doors or windows, the visitor is inclined to believe that they are more likely to be the houses of the dead than of the living. Some other walls found at the southeast corner have been judged by Dr. Schliemann to be the remains of a palace. He speaks of it as "a vast Cyclopean house," and the discovery of gold and other valuable articles within these walls he considers as evidence of its having been a regal abode. Supposing it to have been a palace, its close proximity to the royal tombs would seem to show a custom in early Greece similar to that mentioned in the Bible, where Manasseh is described as having been buried "in his own house" (2 Chronicles, xxxiii. 20), or, as it is put in one of the earlier books, "in the garden of his own house" (2 Kings, xxi. 18). These tombs are connected with a very remarkable structure which has been brought to light by Dr. Schliemann's explorations. It is a structure which is entirely new to the students of classic archæology.

This interesting monument is a circle about 100 feet in diameter. It is composed of two concentric circles of stone about two feet six inches apart. As most of these stones are broken or imbedded in the earth, it is not easy to give their height; but one or two which have been left standing are between five and six feet high, about two feet six inches wide, and over four inches in thickness. Some of them are now only about a



SITE OF ANCIENT ELEUSIS, GREECE.

DR. SCHLIEMANN'S EXCAVATIONS [illegible]

couple of feet above-ground, but to what extent they were originally covered below it is now impossible to say. The space between these two circles seems to have been bridged over with slabs of stone, and the upper edges of the stones have been all morticed to receive tenons, which, no doubt, kept the horizontal slabs above in their places. All these stones seem to have been worked tolerably smooth and fitted neatly together, so that the whole, when complete, must have had much the appearance of a circular stone bench. The only break in this circle is at its north side, where there is what now seems a recess; but as the outer extremity is not composed of similar slabs to the rest of the construction, but is, on the contrary, filled up with rude stones and rubbish, it was most probably open, and formed the door of the inclosure. The idea that it was the entrance is strengthened by its being on that side of the circle nearest to the Lion Gate, at which it would be approached by those entering the Acropolis. There is a very remarkable arrangement on each side of this entrance or recess. The upright slabs are so placed as to form inclosures like cells. They are scarcely long enough for a tomb, but a living man could easily be stowed away in one. A prisoner to be tried could be kept there till the judges assembled. No doubt these stone boxes were also connected with the slabs, like the rest of the circle.

In the drawing, the stones forming the circle can easily be traced, and a fair notion of their present condition gained. At the same time the reader will, without difficulty, be able to conceive the restoration of the whole structure which has just been described. It is supposed that the place was one of public assembly, open to the public, so that all going on within could be seen, and yet separated from the outward crowd by blocks of stone forming a line of inclosure. That public places of assembly and justice were held in circular inclosures, we have evidence from HOMER himself, and as his evidence takes us back to the period when Mycenæ existed, his descriptions are of value as bearing on this point. The close position of this inclosure to the Lion Gateway, it may be remarked, is an additional reason for accepting this view of the matter. It was at a very primitive period, wh[illegible] the [illegible]
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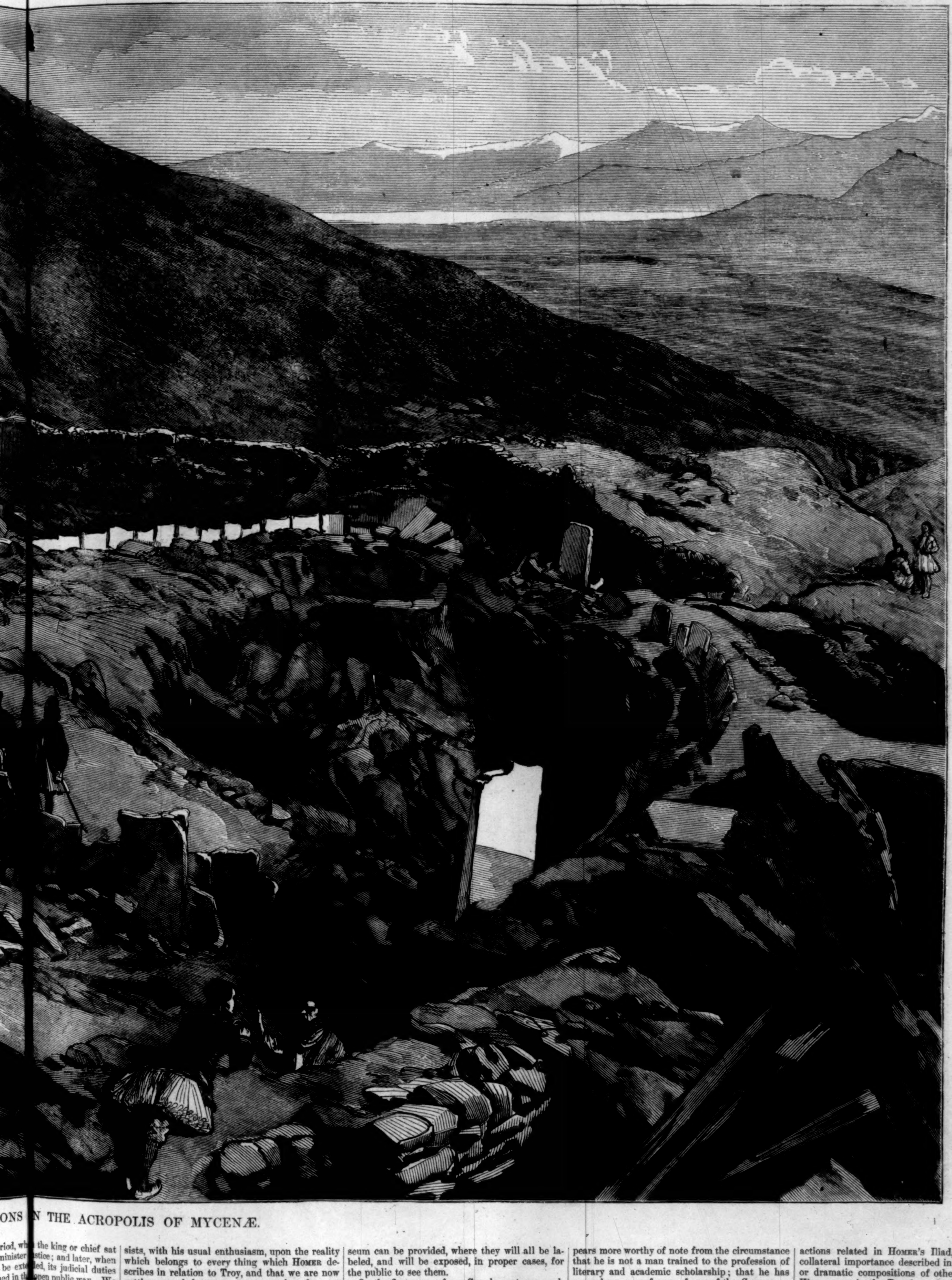

ONS IN THE ACROPOLIS OF MYCENÆ.

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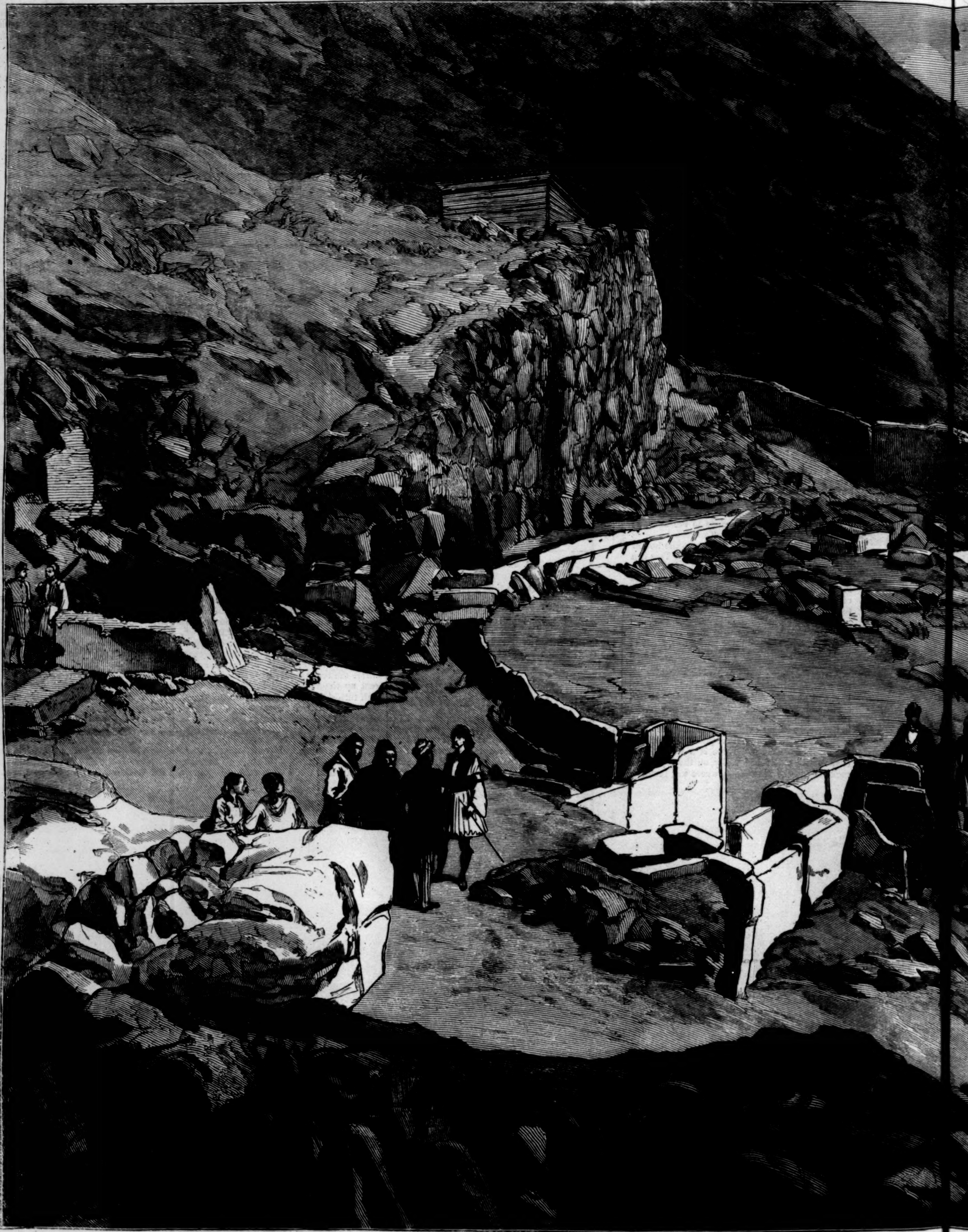
On the first page of our Supplement our readers will find a portrait of the great explorer himself. It is, perhaps, a fact not generally known that Dr. SCHLIEMANN is not assisted in his labors by any fellow-enthusiasts in the cause of archæology, nor is he in the employ of any society. At his own private risk, and at large pecuniary sacrifices, he carries on these laborious and costly researches. His example at the present time appears more worthy of note from the circumstance that he is not a man trained to the profession of literary and academic scholarship; that he has never been a professor of any of the German or other universities; but that his youth and part of his manhood, in Hamburg and in London, as we understand, were incessantly occupied with commercial business. Since his retirement, within the last few years, from an active mercantile career, he has devoted nearly all his time and a great deal of his money to the self-imposed task of examining the places associated with the chief actions related in HOMER'S Iliad, and those of collateral importance described in the narratives or dramatic compositions of other Greek poets. His success in the Troad, or that district of the coast of Asia Minor, just below the Dardanelles, where two or three sites had been alleged for the city of Ilium, or Troy, was the commencement of a new era in the progress of classical archæology. There is no story, outside of the Bible, which has appealed to such a multitude and variety of human sympathies, during such a lengthened period of time, as "the tale of Troy divine."



DR. SCHLIEMANN'S EXCAVATIONS [N T

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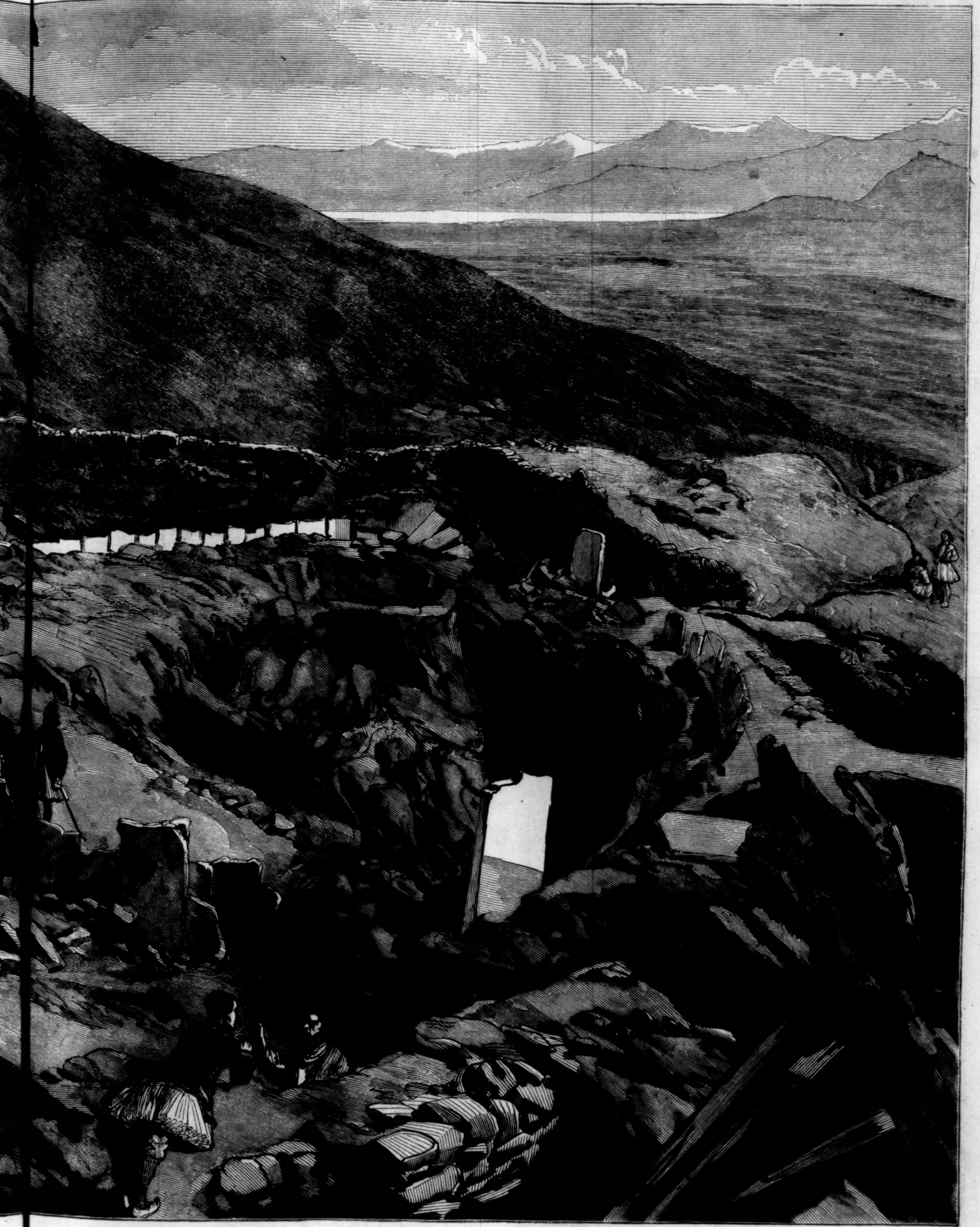

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